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## NEWS SUMMARY

ERAL

**ritain**  
**recalls**  
**Chile**  
**envoy**

has recalled its ambassador to Santiago indefinitely in the wake of the torture of Dr. Cassidy, the 37-year-old British doctor, who returned to Britain yesterday after being held for 55 days by Chilean police.

The Government, which is to issue evidence of Dr. Cassidy's innocence to the UN Human Rights Commission, knew about torture soon after her arrest on November 1. But the envoy's return was not announced until Cassidy's arrival at Gatwick yesterday.

Cassidy spoke last night of torture at the hands of Chilean police, of being naked and tied down to a chair, and of the many times she felt her life was in danger during the first night.

"I was tortured with electric shocks on three separate occasions."

**trial**

Cassidy's arrest took place a gunfight at a Catholic home in Santiago. She was accused of treating a Left-wing revolutionary.

At night the Chilean embassy in London denied the allegations.

**gola: 'Many African dead'**

troops fighting on the Angolan front have suffered a serious defeat at Cela, it is claimed, in Luanda, the capital. It is spoken of as "South Africa's dead". While South Africa recalled its Ambassador for talks as pressure increased for an end to the Angolan involvement.

**ter Loyalists conference**

's Loyalist organisations stage a joint conference show of strength to Westminster before the Commons' Convention Report on January 12. At the same time, the Ulster Workers' Council, May 1974, strike brought down the power-sharing government, are to lobby Labour about the Report.

**son officers face charges**

en prison officers from Liam's Winston Green jail face criminal charges following allegations that the six prison pub bombers—now life sentences—were up after their arrest. The men have been suspended on pay. Summons were issued against them.

**don siege, it demands**

men who appeared on television at a South London court last charged in connection with the Balaclava Street raid, emanded in custody until January 7. A magistrate ordered the defendant during the trial. In the same court a chef was remanded in custody accused of bombing Mulligan's bar at Kilburn, London. He was also remanded with three other men on conspiracy charges.

**fly ...**

sident Papadopoulos of Greece was jailed for 25 years yesterday. He is under a death sentence.

's trawler fleet yesterday for new fishing grounds in East Iceland.

He won the third Test for the West Indies by eight wickets.

was last night by gales of 24 mph yesterday.

man in Britain. Mr. J. Southey, died in London yesterday. He was 110.

## BUSINESS

**Equities**  
**up 6.7;**  
**gilts**  
**firm**

**EQUITIES** were active. The FT 30-share index closed 6.7% up at 374.8, only 3 points off



the 1975 peak. The FT-Actuaries All-Share index gained 1.6 per cent. to 157.80.

**GILTS** were again firm. There was brisk trade in the "tap" stock and fresh gains in shorts ranged to 1%. Mediums and longs closed with rises of up to 1%. The Government Securities index rose 0.12 to 59.77.

**GOLD** lost \$1 to \$141.

**STERLING** gained 10 points to \$2.0240; its weighted depreciation narrowed to 30 (30.1) per cent. The dollar began firmly but declined later.

**WALL STREET** was 5.88 down at \$50.68 near the close.

**U.S. economic indicators index gains 0.4%**

**U.S. INDEX** of leading economic indicators increased by an estimated 0.4 per cent., following two months of decline. Page 4. Chancellor Helmut Schmidt predicted a decline in unemployment in his New Year message but warned West Germans that full employment would not be achieved in 1976. Page 3

**ENERGY** consumption in Britain for October was 11.5 per cent. below 1974's level, according to Department of Industry figures. Deliveries of fuel oil fell 29.2 per cent. due to cuts in consumption for electricity generation. Page 4

**PROPERTY** companies were finally unable to reduce the £2.96bn. they owe to banks during the three months to mid-November, according to the Bank of England. They still hold more than 13 per cent. of total sterling advances by the banking system.

**SLATER** Walker Securities offered to sell its 28 per cent. share stake in the Rockware Group for about £3m. to Pilkington Brothers. The sale was under urgent discussion last night following objections from Rockware's chairman. Back Page

**COMPANIES**

**NORWEST HOLST** could pass into the control of two directors of an unquoted Manchester property development company, Stonegate Securities. If the takeover panel approves a proposed deal, Pilkington profit for the half-year to October was down slightly to £0.428m. (£0.455m.). Page 12 and Back

**UNITED** Fisheries of Kuwait has sold its entire Lonrho shareholding of 14.8m. to Gulf Fisherer WLL at 180p a share.

**AEROYD AND SMITHERS** profit for the year to October 3 rose to £7.31m. (£3.65m.). The distribution total is 15p net per 25p share, including a 2.5p centenary bonus. Chairman says current profit is showing "an encouraging increase". Page 12 and Back

**BARKER and Dobson** pre-tax loss widened to £1.68m. (£0.82m.). Chairman believes the necessary corrective steps have been taken. Page 12

**GEORGE** and **WILLIAMS** pre-tax loss widened to £1.68m. (£0.82m.). Chairman believes the necessary corrective steps have been taken. Page 12

**PRICE CHANGES YESTERDAY**

in pence unless otherwise indicated)	Haslemere Estates	200 + 8
	ICL	334 + 4
	Keith and Henderson	62 + 4
	Land Seas.	180 + 5
	Leeds Estates	6 + 31
	Lorho	126 + 6
	London Gramplian	45 + 5
	Nat. Westminster	250 + 9
	Norwest Holst	40 + 4
	P & O Dfd.	981 + 44
	Rowntree Mackintosh	185 + 8
	Sheaf Steam	77 + 7
	Sunley (B)	165 + 13
	Tate and Lyle	245 + 5
	Shell Transport	380 + 5
	Tyne	57 + 9
	United	90 + 5
	Waterloo	265 + 13
	Minorco	215 + 12
	Phoenix Min. and Fin.	183 + 4
	FT-Actuaries Indices	183 + 4
	Gardening	505 + 20
	Selection Trust	505 + 20
	Winkiehaak	930 + 40

# FINANCIAL TIMES

No. 26,857

Wednesday December 31, 1975 \*\*\*10p



A New Year message from the Chancellor of the Exchequer

## Opportunities in 1976

NINETEEN SEVENTY-SIX will be another difficult year for the British people. But it can also mark the turning point in our post-war economic history. It can be the year in which for the first time Britain enters the upturn of an international trade cycle with a proper balance between the main components of demand, fully competitive in world markets, and prepared to reach the peak of recovery without overheating.

Nineteen seventy-six can also be the year in which the prolonged decline in the relative performance of Britain's manufacturing industry is stemmed and reversed. Indeed progress on this front will greatly improve the chances of lasting success in meeting the cyclical problems.

Whether success is in fact achieved in either of these fields will not depend on Government alone, but also on both sides of industry and on our financial institutions. The past twelve months show what can be achieved when all four of these partners start working together. Our external deficit has been only half that of 1974, and since July the rate of inflation has fallen by well over half. In 1976 continued observance of the £8 limit on pay increases can bring our inflation down to single figures. Though as recovery gets under way we shall be hard put to it to continue reducing our external deficit at the same rate, we must aim at achieving balance on our current account at full employment within the next three years or so.

There are now multiplying signs that the recession may have bottomed out in Britain as in other industrial countries. In 1976 we can expect some growth of output, accelerating towards the end of the year. But there will be a time lag of some months between the increase in output and the fall in unemployment. The degree of national unity so painfully achieved over the past twelve months could melt away if working people come to feel that society no longer attaches great importance to their right to work. No one will gain if the trade unions lose confidence in the British Government. We must therefore do everything we can to accelerate recovery in Britain and to shorten

the time lag between the recovery in output and in employment, without adopting measures which would increase our external deficit beyond the possibilities of financing it, or would set inflation soaring up again. Increased exports and import substitution are one road open to us. The other is the creation of new manufacturing capacity through more training and investment. Although some of the new capital equipment will certainly have to be imported, increased investment is now so widely recognised to be essential that the improvement in domestic and foreign confidence it generates will outweigh the immediate effect on the demobilisation of unemployment.

In 1976 one of our most important tasks will be to ensure that our industry is able to meet the high levels of demand we must expect both at home and abroad in the following years without the overheating and bottlenecks which frustrated recovery in 1973. Early action here will have a double value by reducing unemployment in the short run as well as providing new capacity and new jobs for the future.

The Government will continue to provide all the money which can usefully be absorbed in officially sponsored training schemes. But private employers should do far more if they are not once again to suffer from shortages of skilled manpower in 1976.

The scope for raising exports is steadily increasing. The effective depreciation of sterling over the last year means that our exports are competitive in price, and the Government has recently improved facilities for export credits. But there is still room for improvement in the quality, availability and marketing of British exports, as any visitor abroad can testify.

Indeed those who believe that price is the critical element might reflect on the steady increase in Germany's exports to Britain over recent years when the Deutsche mark has been steadily rising against sterling. We are unlikely to achieve a sustainable balance in our external account unless we can regenerate our manufacturing industry as was agreed at Chequers in November. This is not just a matter of picking winners and slaughtering lame ducks, as some commentators pretended. It is necessary simultaneously to halt the steady contraction of our manufacturing base and to improve its structure and performance without losing the confidence of either workers or employers—not a simple task.

That is why during the recession we have taken emergency action to preserve the productive capacity of the economy even though it cannot be fully used at present. If a firm has a viable future, the Temporary Employment Subsidy can enable it to retain its workforce, and temporary controls on

imports, whether unilateral or negotiated, may enable it to survive the recession. We have also acted directly on the labour market, particularly to help school-leavers escape the demobilisation of unemployment.

In 1976 one of our most important tasks will be to ensure that our industry is able to meet the high levels of demand we must expect both at home and abroad in the following years without the overheating and bottlenecks which frustrated recovery in 1973. Early action here will have a double value by reducing unemployment in the short run as well as providing new capacity and new jobs for the future.

The Government will continue to provide all the money which can usefully be absorbed in officially sponsored training schemes. But private employers should do far more if they are not once again to suffer from shortages of skilled manpower in 1976.

Similarly the Government has been helping to bring forward investment wherever it is likely to reduce bottlenecks, as with the ferrous foundry industry and machine tools. But too many firms cling to the irrational tradition of investing only at the top of the cycle so that the new capacity is downstream only when the cycle has swung downwards.

The time for investment is now. In the national interest we want to take the top off the next boom and use it to fill the trough of the present recession. We also want our maximum capacity in operation at the peak, and not after the peak is past. The interest of individual firms is the same. And the conditions are now ripe. Although profitability is low, it should improve in 1976.

Company liquidity is much better than a year ago, partly as a result of my tax relief on stock appreciation. External funds for industrial investment are also generally available. A large and welcome infusion of new money was subscribed for Ordinary shares in 1975. The banks are ready to lend, as is the enlarged Finance for Industry.

In addition the Government has introduced its own scheme for accelerating investment

through financial help on special terms where its criteria are met. This scheme gives exceptionally good value for money and I want it to go as far as the traffic will bear. As in the case of exports, here is an opportunity for firms to do good for themselves and for the economy as a whole. I ask any manager who reads this article to consider whether he knows of any worthwhile investment project which could be carried through faster if finance were available.

I have stressed exports and investment in this message. These are the sectors through which recovery must come. It is in these sectors that many of my readers have the power to act themselves.

Meanwhile the Government must make sure that there is room in the economy for the necessary increase in exports and investment. That is why we have pledged ourselves to prevent any significant increase in public expenditure programmes after this year, and to ensure that the public sector borrowing requirement falls steadily as a proportion of our national income.

These are hard decisions for a Labour Government and for myself as Chancellor. But trade unions and employers alike agreed at Chequers that first priority must now go to the improvement of our manufacturing industry even at the expense of our social objectives. The will to maintain this priority will depend critically on the readiness of those concerned to take advantage of the opportunities it offers them. I hope that in 1976 readers of the Financial Times will give a vigorous and sustained response.

DENIS HEALEY

Prospects for the U.K. economy in 1976 on Page 10; the U.S. economy on Page 11; views of leading industrialists. Page 6.

## BSC firm on economies — '44,000 jobs must go'

BY JOHN ELLIOTT, LABOUR EDITOR

THE BRITISH Steel Corporation yesterday confirmed union leaders' worst fears about its future plans when it told them that it wants to cut its workforce by about 44,000 in the next two years to help offset a mounting financial loss which it expects to be running at £3.4m. a week next year.

In addition, the Corporation has officially increased the figure of £170m. which it wants to save on costs in the coming year to £200m., because it expects to have to bear some £26m. increased costs in the next three months.

Against this background, the Corporation refused to back down on its package of economies which is being strenuously opposed by the unions. It will start implementing the package next Sunday when it will begin eliminating expensive premium shift working.

The Corporation also stressed

that all that would be needed for the 44,000 jobs to be eliminated from its 220,000 total would be for the unions to agree that no steelworkers should be allowed to replace workers who leave the industry during the next two years.

Therefore, it seems set on a collision course, with the unions warning

of "clashes" and industrial action when the package is implemented, especially when guaranteed week-end arrangements are stopped for workers with less than five years service on January 11.

Warning that the Corporation should remove its package or "face the consequences," the industry's leading union official,

LOMBARD

# The service 1975 has performed

BY C. GORDON TETHER

"HIS SIMPLE message of love," said the Queen, referring in her Christmas broadcast to the fact that the celebrations revolved around the birthday of a child born nearly 2,000 years ago, "has been turning the world upside down ever since." So indeed, it has. But not nearly enough in the meaningful sense—to judge by the scene that confronts us at the present time.

And one good thing that can be said about 1975 is that it has driven this home by demonstrating to the world that we are going to have to adopt a much less self-centred approach to the way in which we run our world—if, that is, we are ever to get anywhere nearing giving an adequate response to that "simple Christian message."

It is true to say that Christ's "message of love" has long since directly or indirectly penetrated all those countries on which the main responsibility for ordering the world's affairs has come to rest. And lip service is regularly paid to the need to apply it—not only at expressly religious gatherings but also on public occasions of all kinds.

Too often, unhappily, that is as far as it goes. Certainly it can hardly be said that those fortunate enough to live in these privileged places have paid much heed to the obligation it imposes on them to ensure that the distribution of the good things of life was arranged in more equitable fashion.

A good half of the Earth's population still lives in conditions that are hardly better—and are sometimes materially worse—than those which were the lot of the under-privileged when Christ unfolded His dream of a new world order. Yet the affluent countries' official contribution to the relief of overseas poverty has scarcely reached half the minimum objective of 0.7 per cent of gross national products they set for themselves five years ago. And no one can say that this target was anything but a pretty mean one bearing in mind the immensity of the gap now separating their living standards from those of the rest of mankind.

The failure of Christ's "message of love" to turn things upside down in sufficiently robust manner where the relations between the affluent countries and the rest are concerned is, however, an old story. What makes the past year's experience of special significance is that it has shown that our present system cannot even be relied upon to serve the best interests of the

mass of the people in the regions which it has traditionally pampered.

Built-in weaknesses—themselves traceable in major degree to persistent disregard of the simple moralities that Christ taught—have resulted in it getting itself into a tangle from which it is clearly going to have the greatest difficulty in extricating itself. Moreover, it is no exaggeration to say that the adverse impact of the new turbulence on the quality of life of ordinary people has been little short of traumatic. In addition, many of them are being asked to make tremendous personal sacrifices to prevent things getting worse than they are already.

Vigorous efforts are, of course, being made to play down the implications of the 1975 story and equally vigorous efforts to patch up the existing system to a sufficient extent to put it in a position to hobble along a little longer before the truth of what has happened can no longer be denied.

But it would be far better if the moral of the latest turn in the world's story—that our universe cannot continue to allow "market forces" to play such a dominant part in shaping its affairs if it wants to pay more than lip service to Christ's teaching—was recognised now.

For the task of evolving the new world order we obviously require could then be put in hand without further delay. And in this matter, time is assuredly not on our side.

The call which Dr. Coggan, the Archbishop of Canterbury, made a couple of months back for the abandonment of materialism and a return to God has come in for a good deal of criticism—some of which it doubtless deserved. But he was certainly proceeding on the right line when he stressed that there was little hope of devising satisfactory answers to our economic troubles at home until the whole debate was lifted into the moral sphere.

The same is undoubtedly true of its international counterpart. The politicians and the bureaucrats do something to alleviate the parlous condition of the Third World's peoples by improving the functioning of the global economic system. But relations between the "haves" and "have-nots" are not going to be turned "upside down" in the way that Christ's teaching demands until we recognise that moral considerations rather than economic ones ought to be our guide.

# Search starts for Kriter

BY ALEC BEILBY

A FIRST air search for Kriter II, French contender in the Financial Times Clipper Race, ended last night without success.

Kriter was last heard of on Christmas Day when she reported that she was struggling with broken rudder gear in the Tasman Sea.

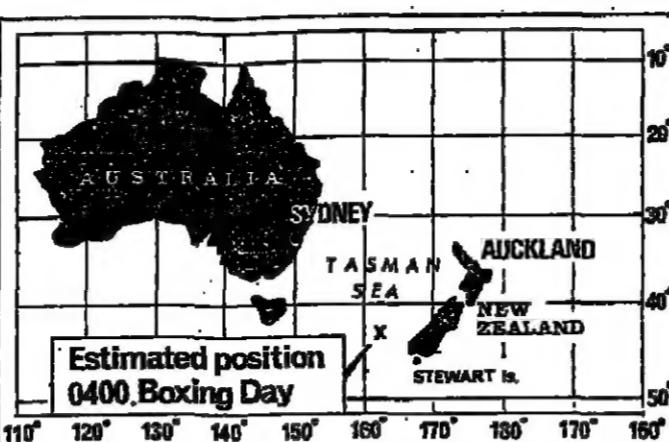
She was then about 300 miles from Australia, having just begun the second leg of the Clipper Race back to England.

Her steering gear went three hours after she passed the British entry Great Britain II. The British yacht stood by for several hours, but the French insisted that she should continue on her way and Kriter was last seen heading back to Australia.

She radioed that she expected to reach Sydney within a week. Nothing has been heard from her since.

An Australian Air Force Hercules which searched an area midway between Sydney and New Zealand returned to its base yesterday.

The search is being continued today by an Australian Air Force Orion reconnaissance aircraft. A similar New



Zealand Air Force aircraft is also expected in the area.

Warships and merchantmen in the area are keeping round-the-clock radio watch.

Those co-ordinating the search say that in spite of the vast area of sea and the comparatively small size of Kriter, conditions are favourable and everything points to the search being successful.

Great Britain II reported to the London race office at midday yesterday that she was approximately 650 miles south-

HOBART, Tasmania, Dec. 30.

of New Zealand and about to cross the international date line.

## Sale of yachts

A COLLECTION of second-hand yachts is to be auctioned at St. Barthélemy's Yacht Haven near Tower Bridge, London, on January 6, by Mr. Peter Wilson, chairman of Sotheby Parke-Bernet. The oldest yacht is a 77-foot ex-trading ketch built in

## RACING

BY DOMINIC WIGAN

## Conditions suit Floating Pound

FRED WINTER, whose Uplands, Lambourn stable has had mixed fortunes at Cheltenham in recent years, saddles both Floating Pound and Sonny Somers for the Old Year Chase (2.25) there to-day, and it will be interesting to see which the punters choose.

My preference is for Mrs. End Boucher's progressive six-year-old Floating Pound, the mount of John Francome, who took this event a year ago through the Richard Head-trained Rathvilly.

Floating Pound, who began the campaign with a promising run at Newbury in mid-November, where he finished third behind Exhibit B and Early Spring in the Oxfordshire Chase, despite some sloppy jumping at some of the early fences, proved much sharper a week later when winning Chepstow's Embassy Premier Chase qualifier.

There the Uplands gelding was always jumping fast and fluently, and from the time he took the lead at the third from home he never appeared likely to be troubled. Kept up to his work all the way, Floating

Pound passed the post six lengths clear of Village Slave, Fulke Walwyn, ought to have at least one winner, for Lime Shooter has an easy task in the opener, Div. I of the Malvern Novices' Hurdle (1.45).

As eight-lengths runner-up to the season's leading juvenile, Tiepolino at Sandown a month ago, where he would have been considerably closer had he not slipped on landing at the last flight, Lime Shooter is likely to have this race sewn up some way from home.

Looking ahead to Thursday's racing programme one of the banker bets should be Comedy of Errors, who will be trying to gain compensation for his luckless Irish Sweeps Hurdle run in Windsor's £8,000 New Year's Day.

Comedy of Errors, none the worse for the bad bump he received on the run-in to the penultimate flight at Leopards-town, has been well laid in the last two days for the Champion Hurdle on March 17, and victory at Windsor will give his many supporters renewed confidence.

Even if he fails to score with

the Dikler, Winter's neighbour, lengths clear of Village Slave, Fulke Walwyn, ought to have at least one winner, for Lime

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## HOME NEWS

## More shopper advice centres

By Elinor Goodman, Consumer Affairs Correspondent

**FORTY-NINE** new consumer advice centres are to be set up throughout the U.K. as a result of the £1.4m grant to local authorities announced in the Government's White Paper on inflation last summer.

Grants of up to £50,000 each will finance setting-up and initial running costs.

The scheme was considerably over-subscribed and the Department of Prices had to turn down as many requests as it accepted because of the financial ceiling.

The projects, selected for their suitability and location, will serve areas with a total population of 9.8m.

The new centres, which will open over the next nine months, will bring the number of consumer advice centres to 128.

The centres, like the existing consumer advice network, will aim to offer consumers a complaints service and pre-shopping advice, including lists of comparative prices.

They will normally be staffed by trained consumer advisers and linked to the local authority's trading standards department.

### High Streets

A network of centres was presented in the summer as a fundamental part of the Government's fight against inflation and was welcomed by the unions.

In all, the Attack on Inflation White Paper set aside £2m. for consumer services. Of this, £400,000 was distributed as £1,000 grants to help finance price comparison studies and £200,000 was given to Consumer Advice Bureaux.

Some of the new centres will be in High Streets to give shoppers on-the-spot advice. In rural areas, some local authorities will have mobile units.

The National Consumer Council—set up by the Government to speak for consumers yesterday—welcomed the Government's plans but called for still more centres. It said that about 240 were needed.

For this reason, it would have preferred a lower limit of £25,000 on each project and more centres.

"Consumers have never been in greater need of advice and information to help them get value for money," the Council said.

## Gestetner to hire out copiers

By ROY LEVINE

**GESTETNER** Duplicators is to introduce a rental plan for its FB 12 Series III copier on Friday in an attempt to capture a bigger share of the copier market.

The plan will operate at first in southern England, but will be extended before the end of next year to the whole of Britain.

Aimed at users with a minimum copy volume of over 4,000 copies a month, the plan is based on a discount points structure—users are allotted points for copy volume, use of paper and consumables, geographic location

## Energy consumption 11½% down in October

BY RHYNS DAVID

**ENERGY CONSUMPTION** in Britain is continuing to run at much lower levels than a year ago. Figures for October from the Department of Industry show an 11½ per cent. drop on the same month last year.

The annual rate of consumption in October at 32.6m. tons coal equivalent compares with total consumption of 346.1m.tce. in 1974 and 331.5m.tce. last year and reflects the decline in economic activity during 1975 together with consumer economies.

The biggest reduction has taken place in demand for petroleum products, with refinery throughput and deliveries both down 17.5 per cent. in October, compared with the same month last year.

Deliveries of fuel oil fell by some 29.2 per cent. as a result of a steep fall in consumption for electricity generation, but deliveries of motor spirit were only 3 per cent. down on the previous year.

### U.K. 'needs 200-mile sea limit'

By Chris Baar,  
Scottish Correspondent

**BRITAIN** SHOULD seek the establishment of a 200-mile fishing limit by the end of 1976, Dr. William Lyon Dean, chairman of the Herring Industry Board, said in Edinburgh yesterday.

If the Law of the Sea conference, meeting in New York during April-May, failed for the third time to fix a 200-mile limit, the U.K. should take "immediate steps" in agreement with the other European countries concerned, for a North Atlantic mutual regional pact. The 200-mile limit should be made effective "no later than the end of 1976."

Referring to the "cod war," Dr. Dean said it was regrettable that the deep-sea fleet should have had its quotas around Iceland restricted, while Icelandic boats took a greater share than Britain of the herring around Shetland.

But Iceland's action in unilaterally extending its fishing limit might have achieved some good in giving a new impetus to an international agreement.

The Board reported that, because of quota restrictions, fish landings in the past year fell 20 per cent. to 112,857 tonnes. Fishermen's earnings adjusted, the figure is 18,000, compared with 16,900 in October and 15,500 in September. It is

The sole increase in consumption was recorded in aviation kerosene—11 per cent. in October this year over October last year. Stocks of oil held by the oil companies have declined from 24.8m. tons in November last year to 21.9m. tons in November this year—37 days' supply.

The public electricity industry—which reduced its usage of oil by 4.5 per cent. in October and its total fuel usage by 12.8 per cent.—supplied nearly 11 per cent. less electricity during the month compared with last year.

**Coal**

In the coal industry, the open-cast sector managed to record a 17 per cent. increase in production in November compared with the same month last year, but output from deep mines was only up 1.1 per cent.

Average output per manshift showed a decline, however, over the figure for November last year.

**Gas**

In the gas industry, total supply in October fell by 7 per cent. compared with the same month last year, and there was a 6.5 per cent. drop in the contribution made by town gas.

All but 4 per cent. of U.K. gas supply now comes from natural gas compared with more than 90 per cent. in 1968, before the big natural gas conversion pro-

gramme.

There was equal interest in the potential of joint ventures and the possibilities for direct investment, both aimed at the European markets.

The Council expected the first joint venture to be announced early in the new year, involving a company in Ayrshire, and leading to the employment of about 300 people.

If all 25 inquiries matured, the employment potential would amount to over 2,000 jobs.

Mr. Peter Balfour, chairman of Scottish and Newcastle Breweries, who has led the Council's campaign, said it would produce tangible results quickly.

"It seems to us that America is pulling out of the depression very much faster than many people think."

### Job centre

**NORTHAMPTON'S** first Government job centre will be opened by Mr. Hugh Hamilton, general manager of the town's development corporation, next Tuesday.

Housing completions last month totalled 27,000 on the adjusted basis, against 25,700 in October and 27,900 in September.

House renovation grants for an estimated total of 31,600 dwellings were approved in England and Wales during the three months to last month.

**Aircraft hazard reports to be made compulsory**

BY MICHAEL DONNE, AEROSPACE CORRESPONDENT

**THE CIVIL Aviation Authority** will bring in a mandatory system of "incident" reporting to-morrow for aircraft used for public transport.

Aircraft makers, airlines, pilots, engineers, air traffic controllers and all airport workers will have to report to the CAA within 96 hours anything in the air or on the ground which has endangered an aircraft or which, if not corrected, could have endangered it.

The aim is to make flying safer, by ensuring that lessons are learned from every "near miss" or other hazard involving any aircraft on the U.K. register, no matter where in the world it may be flying.

Up till now, reporting of such incidents has been voluntary. But the CAA feels that a mandatory system will give a more comprehensive picture of incidents from which lessons can be learned.

An important aspect of the new system will be distribution to the aerospace and airline industries of a weekly summary of reports. This will alert them to problem areas.

The number of air-misses over the U.K. last year was down on 1973, according to figures published yesterday.

The number reported for "air transport" aircraft was 57, against 55 in the previous year, while aircraft in other civil operations had 74, against 95.

**Leading indicators index up by 0.4% in November**

BY JUREK MARTIN, U.S. EDITOR

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30

**THE INDEX** of U.S. leading economic indicators increased by 0.4 per cent. in November. Although this re-

verses the downward trend of the previous two months, there

is very little in the statistics to suggest anything other than moderate growth in the economy in the first half of next year.

The November data are preliminary. They contrast with a revised decline in the index of 0.4 per cent. in October and 0.1 per cent. in September. In the March to August period, the leading indicators had risen very sharply, as the U.S. began to pull out of the recession.

Of the 11 indicators included in the November calculations

## AMERICAN NEWS

### U.S. shows investment interest in Scotland

By Chris Baar,  
Scottish Correspondent

**ABOUT 25 U.S. companies** have expressed an interest in manufacturing in Scotland, either through direct investment in new facilities or through joint ventures with Scottish partners, the Scottish Council (development and industry) said yesterday.

The Council last month

launched an investment-attracting campaign in the U.S. Its team, partly financed by the Scottish Office, visited Houston and Los Angeles.

It will visit San Francisco, San Diego, Chicago and New York, and plans to end its campaign in Philadelphia coinciding with the celebrations to mark the bicentenary of America's independence.

Manpower declined marginally, with 300 more men leaving the industry in November than were recruited. The total labour force at 246,000 is the same as last year, and only slightly up on the figure for 1973, before the national strike and substantial increase in mineral pay.

Coal stocks increased by 1.4m. tons in November and now stand at 31.3m. tons—an increase of more than 10m. tons on the same month last year.

In the gas industry, total supply in October fell by 7 per cent. compared with the same month last year, and there was a 6.5 per cent. drop in the contribution made by town gas.

All but 4 per cent. of U.K. gas supply now comes from natural gas compared with more than 90 per cent. in 1968, before the big natural gas conversion pro-

gramme.

There was equal interest in the potential of joint ventures and the possibilities for direct investment, both aimed at the European markets.

The Council expected the first joint venture to be announced early in the new year, involving a company in Ayrshire, and leading to the employment of about 300 people.

If all 25 inquiries matured, the employment potential would amount to over 2,000 jobs.

Mr. Peter Balfour, chairman of Scottish and Newcastle Breweries, who has led the Council's campaign, said it would produce tangible results quickly.

"It seems to us that America is pulling out of the depression very much faster than many people think."

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## OVERSEAS NEWS

## Mrs. Gandhi admits spread of Indian underground

BY K. K. SHARMA IN NEW DELHI AND KEVIN RAFFERTY IN LONDON

**I. INDRA** Gandhi, the ne Minister of India, yesterday admitted that a "strong underground movement" was rating in the country and gained footholds in places it was previously unknown. Speaking at a session of the All India Congress Committee, the ruling party's supreme body, near Chandigarh, she blamed the under-

ground for two recent railway accidents.

Mrs. Gandhi said that although such organisations as the Rashtriya Shamsheel Sangh (RSS) and Anand Marg had been banned their "underground activities are still going on" and there has been no let up in the activities of the RSS.

Both organisations are now functioning in an organised underground manner, she said.

Speaking to the minorities caucus of the Congress the Prime Minister asked minority sections to keep a close watch on the activities of the banned organisations and to inform the state and central authorities about them.

The RSS and Anand Marg were among the 30 odd organisations banned soon after the proclamation of the

Emergency on June 26. The RSS is a militant Hindu extremist group which has a well organised cadre and the political wing of which is the Jana Sangh. The Sangh has not been banned, but a demand has been made at the Congress session for its dissolution. The Anand Marg has been responsible for many murders and violent incidents.

Both aired their views at separate meetings yesterday with the Parliamentary "Initiative Committee." The committee, formed of ten Deputies represents a cross-section of religious and political representation in the legislature. It proposed a programme of reforms to end the crisis here. Among other things, it said the crisis could be settled by an immediate sharing of seats in Parliament by Christians and Moslems, provided the head of state continues to be a Christian Maronite.

Mr. Franjeh who is a Maronite was quoted in the Press here to-day to have told the committee he could not agree to changing the current formula of six Christian seats to five Moslem unless a census is taken to cover resident Lebanese as well as

emigrants.

Observers noted that if this is the case a solution of the eight-month-old conflict remains as far remote as ever.

According to recent statistics, as many as 5m. people of Lebanese origin now reside in the Americas, Africa and Australia. They or their families had emigrated in the past 100 years.

The majority of the emigrants known to be overwhelmingly Christian.

## Algeria, Morocco recall ambassadors

ALGIERS, Dec. 30.

Amouzegar warns of oil price rises

ZURICH, Dec. 30.

IRANIAN Finance Minister Yamshid Amouzegar said in an interview published to-day that oil price increases "will become possible again starting mid-1976" when the expected economic recovery would touch off increased demand for petroleum.

Amouzegar said Iran has been "very well able" to cope with shrinking oil revenues in 1975 resulting from the decline in demand. But he added that foreign aid by Iran, which up to now had taken about 10 per cent of the oil revenue, "will suffer" from the decline.

Interviewed by the Swiss weekly "Weltwoche," Amouzegar reaffirmed that Iran's strengthening of ties with the Arab cause will not change its stand against Arab embargo on Israel.

AP-DJ

## Thais to open Laos border

BANGKOK, Dec. 30. THAILAND will reopen its border with Laos on Thursday after a six-week closure which seriously disrupted daily supplies to the Laotian capital, Vientiane, Prime Minister Kukrit Pramoj said to-day.

The reopening of the border at two points in Nong Khai province would be Thailand's "New Year present" for Laos, the Prime Minister said. Though

relations between Bangkok and Vientiane continued, Thailand closed the frontier at several points on November 18 following

a two-day border clash in which a Thai navy patrol boat was grounded in the Mekong River

and a Thai sailor killed. Tension in border areas has diminished since then and no fresh incidents have been reported.

Reuter

## Opposition sees long road ahead

BY KEVIN RAFFERTY, ASIA CORRESPONDENT

DIAS senior "underground" position leader is much less fanatic than Mrs. Gandhi was in the strength of his movement when she addressed the All India Congress Committee yesterday.

"It will be tough going and will take us at least two years to build up a popular movement," he told me in London. "But the less fanatical parties think that is not being optimistic."

For the opposition can achieve anything in five years, it will be good going, one told me. The underground opposition is India's motley collection groups from the extreme Left to the extreme Right. It includes

Marxist-Leninists (the now Communists are allies of Mrs. Gandhi), Socialists, the followers of Jayaprakash Narayan, who advocates non-violence, and the Hindu nationalists Jan Sangh and RSS who certainly do not.

To assess the numerical strength of the opposition is virtually impossible. The man in London was an emissary of India's most wanted man the so-called "underground"

George Fernandes, the railway union leader and chairman of the Socialist Party who has been unsuccessfully sought by Mrs. Gandhi's security forces ever since the Emergency was proclaimed in June. Even this man did not know how many political opponents there were.

He merely listed the strength of opponents in various states: 1,500 in Bihar, 1,000 in western Uttar Pradesh, 1,500 in Maharashtra, nothing in a handful of states like Orissa. In no state did he claim more than 1,500. Added together, that would come to no more than 20,000 in all India, not many in a total population of more than 600m.

He claimed that the Emergency clampdown and wave of arrests had made movement difficult. "It took me six weeks from the date of the Emergency to be declared to contact three longstanding friends," he said. However, he tried to suggest that the underground had a wider circle of sympathisers.

From what the man said, of an English-language tabloid I spoke in London claimed that 10,000 people had been arrested in October and November

them. So far, two issues have been published under the imprint "Crescent Press, Dacca."

The other opposition objective, he said, was "to scare the authorities. The man I met said he had been released after he started, "We may not have made the international headlines, but we have done enough to let Mrs. Gandhi know of our existence."

We have blown up about 20 railway lines and bridges, in attacks which would close the line for two or three days. We have also attacked telephone exchanges, post offices and police stations. So far we have been careful to see that no one has been killed, but in the next stage the struggle could get bloody."

His claim about the railway explosions may fit in with Mrs. Gandhi's remarks yesterday.

He denied allegations by Mrs. Gandhi that foreign powers were supporting the underground movement.

Arrests were continuing to a toll. The man to whom I spoke in London claimed that

I spoke in London claimed that 10,000 people had been arrested in October and November

## EUROPEAN NEWS

## Schmidt sees decline in W. German unemployment

BY GUY HAWTIN

CHANCELLOR Helmut Schmidt, in their co-operation, a New Year's message broadcast to-day, warned West optimism is supported by the report published to-day by the Federal Economics Ministry. The report states that despite the forecast economic turn, the outlook for the country as a whole is relatively favourable.

message, recorded before the Chancellor's current visit to the Americas, predicted a decline in employment and short-time working to reach 1.5m.

It stands at some 1.4m. The Chancellor, who reviewed the Government's achievements home and abroad, said that during 1976 the West German security network would continue to be an example for the whole world. The Federal public, he said, would also remain an example to the world (industrial peace, with employers and unions maintaining

which went down 0.5 per cent against September-October 1974. Domestic orders value rose by 2.5 per cent, but foreign orders decreased by 0.5 per cent for the two months.

Inflation for the year was held at an average 6 per cent. In 1974 the cost of living went up by an average 7 per cent. In November, for the first time in four years, prices on industrial products declined slightly.

Total industrial orders during September and October rose 4 per cent compared with the July-August figures. Orders from abroad during the period were up 11.5 per cent over July-August, while domestic orders rose 0.5 per cent. In the September-October period, consumer goods, raw materials and finished products led the demand from abroad and at home as well. Domestic weakness was shown in capital goods where demand declined by 5 per cent.

The value of industrial orders did not keep pace with volume

of investment activity of companies

## EEC tariff pact 'soon' with Maghreb

BY ROBIN REEVES

BRUSSELS, Dec. 30.

THE long-planned preferential trade agreement between the European Community and the North African Maghreb countries, Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia, could be completed early in the New Year.

The European Commission, negotiating on behalf of the Nine, has presented Tunisia with what it insists is its "final offer" of concessions. Tunisia's reply is expected in the next few days, and the Commission hopes this will clear the way for a last plenary negotiating session some time in January. Morocco is expected to go along with broadly the same package as Tunisia.

Success in the Maghreb negotiations would provide a major fillip to the EEC's global Mediterranean trade policy launched as long ago as 1972 with the aim of building, eventually, a free trade area from Donegal to Damascus.

So far, the only agreement to be signed, sealed and delivered as part of this global approach is the accord with Israel reached earlier this year, though Christ

Mas Eve saw another small piece of the Jigsaw fall into place with the initialising of the Community's agreement with Malta.

This grants Malta reduced EEC import tariffs on its fruit and vegetable exports at certain times of the year, notably on new potatoes and onions, and Community financial aid—for long the main stumbling-block—worth 26m. units of account (around £13m.) over five years.

## Lisbon parties present plans for civilian rule

BY PAUL ELLMAN

LISBON, Dec. 30.

PORUGAL'S political parties ranged against them are the process of remodelling the sixth more left wing members of the provisional government moved Revolutionary Council, notably one step further with agreement Major Melo Antunes, as well as among the political parties to accept a military man, Colonel Jose Augusto Fernandes, as the for the military in Portuguese Transport Ministry. Nevertheless, a number of stumbling

blocks remain, notably the secret pending further discussions on the part next week, the public works portfolio, and the controversial Communist Junior Minister for Agriculture, Dr. Antonio Bica, who has been severely criticised for his handling of the agrarian reform

programme. These, along with the positions of dissident popular democratic junior ministers, are expected to be discussed at further meetings between the Prime Minister, Admiral Jose Pinheiro de Azevedo, and party leaders during the coming week.

Meanwhile, the long drawn-out

Papadopoulos sentenced to 25 years prison

BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT

ATHENS, Dec. 30.

FORMER President George Papadopoulos was today sentenced to 25 years' imprisonment by a high civil court which tried him and 31 others in connection with the student revolt in November, 1973, during which 34 people were killed and 1,184 injured.

The court found 20 of the 32 defendants guilty. It sentenced defendant Brigadier General Demetrios Ioannidis to life imprisonment on charges of being the moral instigator of the bloody coup.

The incidents began when about 5,000 students seized the campus of Athens Polytechnic and demanded the resignation of the Papadopoulos military

regime. Three days later, when the entire Athens police force was unable to cope with the situation, Mr. Papadopoulos asked troops backed by tanks to evict the students. A week later, Brigadier Ioannidis, who was then chief of the military police, staged an army coup and toppled Mr. Papadopoulos. His own dictatorship crumbled in the wake of the Turkish invasion of Cyprus which brought Greece and Turkey to the brink of war.

Also sentenced to life imprisonment to-day, were retired General Stavros Vravas (who ordered police at the Ministry of Public Order to fire at will against the demonstrating students).

RUNNING down British forces stationed in Malta faster than

already planned is not one of the "possible new defence cuts" this year. This was emphasised by the Ministry of Defence as Mr. Roy Mason, the Defence Secretary, prepared to pay a three-day call on British forces there starting on Friday.

Earlier in March, White Paper, Britain announced that it would run down the British forces—which comprise a Marine battalion, and some Canberra and Nimrod aircraft used for photo and naval reconnaissance

—between April 1977 and March 1979 when the present agreement on the stationing of British forces expires.

U.K. forces in Malta not to be run down

By David Buchan

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BY RUPERT CORNWELL IN PARIS AND JAMES BUXTON IN LONDON

FOR ALMOST 90 years of colonial rule, France is preparing to grant independence to Djibouti, less than 9,000 square miles of semi-desert bounded by Ethiopia, Somalia and the Red Sea on the eastern tip of Africa.

Mr. Ali Aref, president of the territory's local assembly, yesterday took his case for self-government to President Giscard d'Estaing. But while French President accepts the principle of future independence, local and international bodies have combined to turn this issue into a most delicate foreign policy problem.

Djibouti, or to give it its proper title, the French Territorial Affairs and Overseas, has been French since 1888. Its fate lay in command of the Red Sea entrance to the Red Sea and the Suez Canal and its position on the sea route to France's colonies in the southern Indian Ocean.

These, with the exception of the island of Réunion, have now gone. But the oil upheaval of 1973, the growing Soviet presence in Somalia, the revolution in the neighbouring Ethiopia, and the reopening of the Suez Canal, have given Djibouti significance and dragged it to the forefront of African and Indian Ocean politics.

Earlier this year the

## BUSINESS FORECASTS FOR 1976

**Campbell Adamson, Director-General of the Confederation of British Industry, writes:**

It is all too easy to be gloomy about Britain's prospects in 1976. After all, our inflation rate is still appallingly high, our industrial capacity under-used, much industrial investment has had to be cut back and unemployment continues to climb. If I persist in being optimistic, it is not because I discount the problems we face. They are serious but they are not insuperable. And there is another side to the argument. Our inflation rate, although high, is falling; world trade in 1976 will expand somewhat and there is no reason why British industry shouldn't win its full share of that expansion; British North Sea oil will for the first time start to have a significant impact on our balance of payments. More important than these, there seems to be noticeable change in the will of the British people. I believe we are all fed up and angry with our lack of success, with being the perpetual sick man of Europe, and with the growing signs we see around us that Britain has become a relatively poor country. If the Government can succeed in harnessing this will, which I believe now to be widespread,

# Views of leading Industrialists

## OIL

By David Steel, chairman of BP.

Then 1976 will be a turning point. But to do this, Government must have the courage to tell us all the true facts of the situation. And the truth is that there are no soft options—no soft options for management, for unions, for consumers, and least of all for Government. We are all going to have to accept changes in the way we work, in our economic and social priorities, and in our immediate political objectives. We will all, I believe, have to sacrifice some of our sacred cows.

Management will have to involve their employees to a much greater extent in the working of their companies; employees will have to forget restrictive practices and accept change so that Britain's output per man reaches competitive levels; consumers will have to accept lower living standards; and Government will have to sacrifice some of its doctrinaire and thus divisive policies.

These sacrifices won't be easy for any of us, but if they can be made—and made with resolve—I think we can face 1976 and beyond with the confidence that the worst is now behind and the future holds a great deal for Britain.

The outstanding event of 1975 for BP was the start of production from Forties oilfield, the first major oilfield in the British sector of the North Sea. When it reaches peak output in 1977 Forties will be able to meet about one-quarter of Britain's oil needs.

The prospect of Britain achieving self-sufficiency in the early 1980's is now a real possibility. The successful completion of projects already committed alone will barely meet this goal however. To realise the British sector's full promise will require the development of all proved and potentially-commercial fields. This, in turn, hinges on appropriate investment capacity; the industry must be able to generate adequate finance and the very high rate of inflation in capital costs which has occurred in the past year must be brought down.

In North America good progress is being made with the construction of the trans-Alaska pipeline, which is now about half-completed. We are confident that this vitally important new source of North American oil will begin to flow on schedule in 1977.

In the United Kingdom a major new venture starts on January 1 with the emergence of BP Oil Limited, responsible for the refining and marketing of all BP products in the U.K. In spite of the current recession, I am sure that the establishment of BP as a separate marketing company in the U.K. will improve our competitiveness and our ability to secure a fair return on our investment in Britain.

Despite the successful development of new oil production in the North Sea and Alaska, however, the world is still dependent upon the OPEC producers to meet its oil needs. The economic recession, deepened by massive increases in oil prices imposed by OPEC, has, of course, resulted in a sharp lower uptake of their oil.

There has been continued and successful emphasis during the year on the conservation of energy. Although this inevitably conflicts with the oil industry's short-term selling position, it has a responsibility to promote conservation both to aid the balance-of-payments problem of consuming countries and to protect the longer-term resource base of the industry.

Looking ahead has proved hazardous in the oil industry in the past two years and in no easier now. I hope that 1976 will be better, but excess capacity, especially in tankers and refineries, will continue to bedevil the industry and I am afraid that 1976 will be another lean year.

## TEXTILES

By J. A. Clough, president of the British Textile Confederation.

The British textile industry in 1975 has been suffering from its most severe recession since the 1930s. The combination of a sharp decline in demand for textile products in home and export markets, a marked reduction in stockholding throughout the textile chain and the high level of import penetration produced a situation in which a number of concerns were forced to close their doors. Redundancies and short time working reached alarming rates and even the most modern and best run firms saw their earnings squeezed and their ability to operate at a profitable level of capacity under threat.

It is against this background that the outlook for the textile industry in 1976 must be seen. Order books remain short, stock-building is unlikely to take place while interest rates remain high and the Government's income restraint policy may reduce consumer spending on clothing and household textiles. The industry is continuing to press the Government to do whatever may be possible to ensure the industry's ability to meet the upturn in demand, when it comes, but has derived little confidence from the import restraint levels so far established under the Multi Fibre Arrangement, many of which are disruptively levels of imports to continue, and in some cases even to increase.

On a brighter note, I remain

## INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT

By Sir Frederick Catherwood, chairman of the British Institute of Management Council.

During the last year the conviction has grown in BIM that we must, within our terms of reference, as a professional institute, be a more representative body. There are organisations which represent companies and others which represent the collective negotiating power of members, but neither of these groups adequately convey to government or public the skill and knowledge of the professional on which the whole of our knowledge-based economy depends.

It is BIM's job to see that this knowledge-base is not damaged, but is properly used and continuously improved. But we have to organise ourselves to conduct dialogues with others and this means first of all agreeing among ourselves. As a first step we have summoned a national convention in March to which we hope all branches will send delegations and at which we hope we will be able to debate and agree on key resolutions. Management cannot solve economic problems alone. The proportion of our national product spent by Government has increased from 44 per cent. in 1964/5 to 55 per cent. in 1974/5. In money terms, Government expenditure has increased from £15bn. in 1964 to £45bn. in 1974, while the increase in the ploughed-back profits available for new investment has been fractional.

The machine tool industry is truly international and as a measure of the machine tool trade's confidence in the future it will be mounting in 1976 the greatest single display of machine tools, components and associated equipment ever seen in the UK. I refer to the Machine Tool Trades Association's four-year exhibition which is to be staged at the National Exhibition Centre, September 22-October 2.

The membership of the BMTA covers the public and private sectors and public-sector services are vital to any civilised country, but the exports on which we depend for our economic growth cannot progress unless our products are taken almost entirely from the private sector and it is

are depressed, as they are at present, they do not buy new machine tools. Indeed no amount of technological advance, marketing expertise or publicity can alter that fact.

Our 1976 plea is that the administration of this great country shall re-create for the industries we serve that climate and atmosphere which brings the necessary confidence. Given their steady growth we will prosper. Without it we shall live in a state of fear and famine which has bedevilled our industry for far too long.

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of making products for which there is a high demand, which can be produced economically and which can therefore bear a better wage. This is the case we have to make to those who work with us, to government and to the public. For everyone's sake it is an argument we have to inventiveness of others and most at the right price. We are going important to produce in volume into 1976 with confidence.

## MARKETING

By Peter Blood, director-general of the Institute of Marketing.

For the oil industry generally it has been an exceptionally difficult trading year as consumption continued to fall. We estimate that non-Communist world oil demand in 1975 averaged almost 6 per cent. below the peak reached in 1973.

At the beginning of 1975 the industry's oil stocks stood at a

very high and expensive level

refineries, shipping and distribution systems—were working well below capacity.

Though stocks are now at a more appropriate level, surplus capacity in refining and shipping persists, and in some respects has worsened. Inevitably the industry's average operating costs have increased, but because of weak demand and, in some cases, Government price controls, the industry has been unable fully to recover these higher costs. In consequence profitability has been much reduced, especially in Europe where conditions have been exceptionally hard. Profits must increase to reasonable levels if investment for the future is to be assured.

Despite the successful development of new oil production in the North Sea and Alaska, however, the world is still dependent upon the OPEC producers to meet its oil needs. The economic recession, deepened by massive increases in oil prices imposed by OPEC, has, of course, resulted in a sharp lower uptake of their oil.

There has been continued and successful emphasis during the year on the conservation of energy. Although this inevitably conflicts with the oil industry's short-term selling position, it has a responsibility to promote conservation both to aid the balance-of-payments problem of consuming countries and to protect the longer-term resource base of the industry.

Forward-looking companies will certainly seek new overseas markets, and should consider concentration of effort in such promising areas as the Middle East, France, Germany, Benelux

America and Japan. And many

more companies will recognise

that the key to successful export

markets is to establish their own people in these growth areas.

As employers, we have not

generally been forthcoming in

explaining the essential purpose

and structure of business, nor the

role of profitability and re-invest

ment to our employees. Wise

companies are changing this

attitude, and have already begun

a closer liaison between manage

ment and workers. But for

those who are at a loss, a new

plan entitled "The 100 Plan"

devised by the president of this

Institute will provide practical

guidelines.

For those concerned with

marketing of goods and services

in 1976 will be another tough year

in both personal and company

terms. And, increasingly, empl

oyers will recognise the real

advantage and practical value of

ensuring that their marketing

executives hold appropriate mar

ketting qualifications, coupled

with sound practical experience

in the consumer field, is becoming

more complex a function to be

entrusted to well-meaning

amateurs. The task before us all

is to increase the standard of pro

fessionalism among British mar

kers, to encourage young

people to think of marketing as

a career, and to develop existing

talents and experience.

## PAPER AND BOARD

By T. S. Corrigan, president of the British Paper and Board Industry Federation.

The year has proved to be one of the most difficult experienced by the British paper industry.

During 1974 worldwide demand—swollen by inflation—for pulp, paper and board and converted products led to a substantial excess of deliveries over under-

lying consumption. In U.K. this manifested itself in substantial over-buying by paper merchants, converters, printers and end-users, all of whom accumulated large increases in inventories.

1975 has witnessed a reversal of

this in substantial de-stocking of

against the background of increasing recession in the domestic economy. As a con-

sequence most paper and board mills have been operating on average between 55 and 65 per cent. of capacity depending on

grade.

In a capital intensive, high-break-even industry to operate at these levels means for many companies, at best, a break-even and in others a loss-making situation.

There has been substantial short-time working and a number of redundancies have been inevitable, although the industry has made strenuous efforts to retain, even on a short-time working basis, as many as possible of its employees. It is most encouraging to note that those mills making mainly waste-paper-based products and others which have become more efficient due to management action taken in recent years have been able to operate profitably, albeit marginally, at surprisingly low levels of activity.

During 1974 the effect of price and profit margin control was to severely restrict the amount of

profit and cash resources that could be earned and which have been available to support operations during 1975. This underlines once again the unsatisfactory nature of the profit and price control machinery which does not permit cyclical industries such as the paper industry to earn sufficient in the better years to compensate for the difficult years. Changes in profit controls or, better still, abolition, are urgently needed to assist companies to produce resources for new investment and increased working capital requirements.

During 1975 most imported supplies of woodpulp, the main raw material, have been priced in Swedish kroner or U.S. dollars and because of the weakness of sterling the cost of these materials has increased. Most product selling prices, although remaining fairly firm for most of the year, have not reflected these cost increases, let alone others incurred in the form of increases in wages, salaries, fuel, transport and most other operating expenses.

Underlying consumption during 1975, although at a lower level, is believed to have been in excess of production and inventories have been substantially reduced. The industry looks forward to a better 1976 and to return to more normal levels of working although the first few months may be difficult. It is unlikely that the production levels reached in late 1973 and throughout 1974 can be attained until 1977. Much depends on whether or not inflationary forces reappear which in turn could accelerate demand and produce a repetition of the violent fluctuations of 1974 and 1975.

## CHEMICALS

By J. F. Hunter, president of the Chemical Industries Association.

In the first half of 1975 capital expenditure was at an annual rate of £260m. Since in some sectors up to four years growth has been lost it is inevitable that some projects have been delayed, but nevertheless the industry is still maintaining substantial investment. No serious shortages are anticipated and the industry will have time to authorise new projects as the still uncertain pace of recovery to the end of September.

In the final quarter there has been some improvement in output and sales, but the general view is that this signal the end of re-stocking rather than any real recovery. The better half of the year is expected to continue in 1976, though the first quarter will be difficult as the industry increases prices in many sectors to recover the OPEC oil price increase, as well as other cost increases resulting from continuing inflation and the decline of sterling.

It is hoped that the start of a more general recovery will be evident in the latter part of 1976. As the U.S. goes into recession ahead of EEC but with German and French inflation also expected to be affected, it is hoped that recovery in the U.K. chemical industry, which will be slow, will be restored if we are to step up investment to take new opportunities; we understand the political motivation of continued price control but sincerely believe it to be entirely counter-productive as applied to industry operating in a competitive world.

Industrial relations remain generally good in the industry and in spite of deep recession unemployment has, for the most part, been well maintained. The first half of 1975 capital expenditure was at an annual rate of £260m. Since in some sectors up to four years growth has been lost it is inevitable that some projects have been delayed, but nevertheless the industry is still maintaining substantial investment. No serious shortages are anticipated and the industry will have time to authorise new projects as the still uncertain pace of recovery to the end of September.

This Association welcomes the Government's determined attack on inflation and hopes that it will be sustained. It is necessary also that the growth of public expenditure will be curbed. Such measures will begin to restore the confidence that this industry, and the rest of British industry, needs for recovery. Profits, too, must be restored if we are to step up investment to take new opportunities; we understand the political motivation of continued price control but sincerely believe it to be entirely counter-productive as applied to industry operating in a competitive world.

Industrial relations remain generally good in the industry and in spite of deep recession unemployment has, for the most part, been well maintained. The first half of 1975 capital expenditure was at an annual rate of £260m. Since in some sectors up to four years growth has been lost it is inevitable that some projects have been delayed, but nevertheless the industry is still maintaining substantial investment. No serious shortages are anticipated and the industry will have time to authorise new projects as the still uncertain pace of recovery to the end of September.

I think there are times, and this is one of them, when it is right to take a slightly longer view and a wider perspective of events. Despite the present gloom, British shipping has succeeded in staying a world leader in terms of fleet size, operational efficiency and influence.

We are essentially a private enterprise industry and are determined to remain so. We have invested heavily in new ships and facilities, some £2,500m. in the last decade alone. Last year U.K. owned registered ships totalled their services internationally to the tune of almost £2,000m. and direct export earnings and import savings contributed nearly £1,000m. to the national economy.

I have mentioned commercial problems. There are also political ones, including an increasing degree of severe rate cutting and other non-commercial practices by some of our competitors. To face and surmount such problems we shall need all our competitive "edge" and all the skills ashore and afloat. But looking slightly further ahead than

كما هو الحال

IT WILL REASSURE YOU WHEN YOU  
NEED IT.

IT WILL HELP RESTORE YOUR  
CONFIDENCE SHOULD IT EVER DESERT  
YOU.

IT WILL SOOTHE AND SOLACE YOU  
AFTER A HECTIC DAY.

IT WILL INSULATE YOU FROM THE  
NOISE AND CHAOS OF THE OUTSIDE  
WORLD.

IT WILL REBUILD YOUR MORALE;  
YOUR AMBITIONS.

BUT MOST OF ALL, IT WILL REMIND  
YOU THAT YOUR LIFE HAS NOT BEEN  
TOTALLY WITHOUT SUCCESS.



 **Jaguar**   
From Leyland Cars. With Supercover.

## LABOUR NEWS

# TGWU officials assure members over Dock Bill job fears

BY ROY ROGERS, LABOUR CORRESPONDENT

NATIONAL OFFICIALS from the Transport and General Workers' Union road haulage, general workers, food and white-collar sections have given a joint assurance to their members that their jobs are not endangered by the Government's controversial proposals to extend dockwork areas.

In the January issue of Record, the union's journal, they join Mr. Tom Cronin, docks section national secretary, in signing a statement designed to counteract a "campaign of gross misrepresentation" which the union claims is being conducted against the Dock Work Regulation Bill.

"Employing groups," including Aims of Industry, are blamed for misleading workers by suggesting that they will lose their jobs or be demoted if the dock labour scheme is extended.

This is a "downright lie," according to the joint statement, which underlines that any

workers employed on jobs which may be brought into the scheme will remain in their jobs and be protected against unfair dismissal.

Where the scheme is extended, registered dockworkers will be given preference for filling vacancies. It is not intended to include long-established warehousing, storage, packaging and cold storage operations which are not related to work directly transferred from the docks and not connected with port operations.

### No revolt yet

No changes will be made without full discussion and the full right of appeal, says the statement. The union's aim was to ensure justice and equal treatment for all its members.

The statement is clearly designed to head off any determined opposition to the dock-work plans from among the union's road haulage and ware-

housing sections.

**NGA elects Wade to follow Bonfield**

BY OUR LABOUR CORRESPONDENT

MR. JOE WADE, assistant general secretary of the National Graphical Association since 1968, has been elected to succeed Mr. John Bonfield, who retires as general secretary next summer.

In a heavy 77.26 per cent poll, Mr. Wade received 33,500 votes, coming well ahead of Mr. Ray Allen, the NGA Kent branch secretary, who polled 16,296 and Communist Mr. George Jerron from London, who received 15,081 votes.

Mr. Bonfield, who has been a full-time union official for almost 30 years, will be 61 in May. Last August he told the NGA's national council that he would be retiring early and this is expected to be shortly after the union's annual conference in June.

### Dockers free typewriters

DOCKERS at Hull have released about 1,000 typewriters which they impounded in support of workers at the Imperial typewriters factory.

The machines were released almost six months after factory workers ended their sit-in which was in protest against closure of the plant and sacking of the 1,400 employees.

The typewriters were made at Imperial's West German plant and were shipped to Hull for distribution.

### APPOINTMENTS

## NAVAL ARCHITECT

Canadian Marine Drilling Ltd., a wholly owned Doms subsidiary, requires an experienced naval architect. Responsibilities will be to investigate and develop improvements to existing and future drillships and support vessels, to direct and supervise design of new vessels by engaging marine and architectural consultants and to supervise shipyard construction work.

Immediate responsibilities will be principally in the area of exploratory drilling

marine systems but scope will develop to include marine activities in production and transportation of offshore hydrocarbons. Candidates with experience in design of drillships might be preferred but technical capability, job interest and management ability are primary considerations.

Location — Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

Please submit resume of education and experience to:

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### PERSONAL

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The Imperial Cancer Research Fund, Dept. F, P.O. Box 123, Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC1X 1JX.

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## New head for Scottish Aviation

By Our Own Correspondent

AYR, Dec. 30.

MR. LYNN PHILIMORE, production director of Scottish Aviation of Prestwick, has been appointed managing director.

This is one of a number of changes in the top management of the company, which include the departure of Dr. Gordon Watson, technical and marketing director.

Mr. Eric Porter, at present finance director, also assumes the duties of deputy managing director.

Scottish Aviation is one of the four U.K. aircraft companies which it is intended to nationalise under the Aircraft and Shipbuilding Industries Bill now before Parliament.

The company has been discussing recently a possible contract from the U.S. for production of 61 twin-engined Jet-stream/trainers for the U.S. Navy.

### SNOW REPORTS

Depth State  
L U Pne

Anderstair ... 30 12 Fair Fine 33  
Good snow above 2,300

Anstruther ... 10 30 Fair Fine 37  
More snow needed

Aviemore ... 10 145 Fair Fair 23  
Good north facing slopes good

Champeray ... 9 30 Warm Fine

Craig crags and ice ... 15 35 Fair Fine

Davies ... 30 12 Fair Fine 33  
Good patches on all slopes

Glenshee ... 110 55 Good Fair

Glenshee ... 35 45 Fair Fine

Nursery slopes well covered

Sauze d'Oule ... 10 45 Fair Fine

Lower slopes warm, upper still good

Loch ... 15 60 Warm Fine

Loy patches in morning ... 30 50 Fair Cloudy

Malham Tarn ... 15 75 Good Cloud 30  
Conditions deteriorating

Verbier ... 10 80 Fair Fine

More snow needed

The above reports are supplied by the SSI Club of Great Britain.

### SWITZERLAND

Boden ... 50 50 Good Sun

Brig ... 45 50 Good Sun

Brusswald ... 20 50 Good Sun

Château d'Œx ... 10 40 Good Sun

Flumserberg ... 20 45 Good Sun

Gstaad ... 10 50 Good Sun

Kandersteg ... 20 50 Good Sun

Lötschental ... 10 50 Good Sun

Les Diablerets ... 10 50 Good Sun

Les Saisies ... 25 60 Good Sun

Leysin ... 10 50 Hard Sun

Saas-Fee ... 25 60 Good Sun

Saas-Almagell ... 10 50 Good Sun

Villars ... 5 50 Hard Sun

Widnau ... 10 50 Good Sun

Zermatt ... 10 120 Good Sun

White ... 10 50 Good Sun

Wiler ... 10 50 Good Sun

Wengen ... 10 50 Good Sun



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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1975

## A community of interest

THE YEAR 1975 does not, on the face of it, have much more to be said for it in retrospect than it did while we were struggling through it. A sour year full of retreat, schism and acute uncertainty, haunted by inflation and economic recession and punctuated by the explosions, literal and metaphorical, of ruthless minorities.

During the last 12 months the final vestiges of the post-war environment have been swept away. After the fall of Saigon, the United States enters its bicentennial year with its brief empire in ruins and the self-confidence on which its hegemony was based in tatters. The other feature of life in the Western liberal democracies since 1950—the certainty of steady economic growth and prosperity—has collapsed before the combined onslaught of domestically-induced inflation and the growing economic power of the Third World.

### Landmarks

Not surprisingly, the disappearance of these familiar landmarks has opened up many unpleasant vistas. There is the vision of growing Russian military strength filling the worldwide vacuum left by the American retreat. This is disturbing on a geo-political scale and acutely worrying for the nations of Western Europe. Another possibility is the steady erosion of Western living standards, and consequently of the foundations of Western democracy, as a result of a prolonged and ever-tightening squeeze by the producers of primary commodities.

These apocalyptic notions arise easily enough in this country after a year such as the one which has passed and indeed they are to be found in one form or another embedded in much political and journalistic comment at the year's end.

But there are two things to be said about this proffered analysis. In the first place it is insular. We tend to look at the rest of the world with the consequences of—and often the responsibility for—our peculiar British troubles. The United States and the two most powerful nations within the EEC partake of our social and economic troubles to only the most marginal degree. There has certainly been some profound thing to build on.

## Working with the wrong figures

WITH something of a fanfare, the Central Statistical Office yesterday produced an "important new publication," an annual supplement to its monthly Economic Trends, which, it is claimed, gives long runs of key figures. However, one key figure which is not presented, in long or even short runs, is real national income, which one might suppose was the most basic figure of all. This oversight would hardly be worth noting if it simply marred one book of official numbers; but unfortunately the numbers are a reflection of a deeply serious mistake in official policy. This is why they need to be put right.

**The difficulty**  
Readers may find it hard to believe that the national tables have simply been left out; and of course they haven't. There is an exhaustive analysis of gross domestic product at current and at constant prices. The difficulty is that for a trading nation output, even in real terms, is by no means the same as income, any more than it is for a company or an individual. Income is the result of selling that output; real income is what money income will buy. Just as individual real income is affected by the cost of living, national real income depends partly on the terms of trade. Since between 1970 and 1974 the real purchasing power of a given volume of British exports fell by no less than 25 per cent, this is not just an academic niggle; it is the difference between output which is now about the same as in 1970, and income which has been reduced in real terms by more than 5 per cent.

The Central Statistical Office, know that somebody intended to do it justice, pointed out to act on them.

### Policy-makers

Public expenditure White Papers, for example, base their plans on projections of the growth of national output—which largely explains why quite a modest "volume" growth in public spending has become such an insuperable burden. The same mistaken idea that output is the same as available income led to the disastrous experiment with thresholds under Mr. Edward Heath. There is still no sign that the medium-term assessment on which the Treasury bases its spending plans is based on any view of the future terms of trade. It will be good to see the figures, but much better to do so.

## 1976 PROJECTION → The U.K. Economy

# A year of uncertainties and unknowables

By ALAN A. WALTERS, Cassell Professor of Economics at the LSE

In 1975 the British economy grew again in 1976, if only it has been sinking into a because in 1975 it has dropped to such absurdly low levels, depressed conditions during low even those of the recession of 1975, keeping a moderately of 1970. (Readers may recall tight rein on domestic demand, and wait for the upturn in world trade to pull us out. This would take a long time, but eventually—perhaps in 1977/78—the economy would emerge with stability and some strength. On the other hand, the Government may take steps to try to lift the economy out of the slump. Then there is likely to be an explosion of the money supply, a new surge of inflation in 1978/79 and all the ingredients of yet another inflationary depression.

The Government is most likely to take the inflationary option (no doubt it will be called, euphemistically, "expansionary" or "go-for-growth" policy), partly because of pressure to "do something" about unemployment, partly because of the lower rates of inflation in 1976, and above all because it will see no politically attractive alternative. Chrysler is merely a forecast of this emerging policy. But there are many possible events that may critically affect the Government's posture.

### International creditors

Perhaps the most important is the attitude of our international creditors—and, indeed, our treatment of them. As a condition of a new line of credit, the International Monetary Fund could insist on the Government's undertaking very large cuts in its spending programme and imposing severe limits on the supply of money. A tight rein on domestic demand would continue and even exacerbate the slump in 1976 and into 1977. But at the end of it all there would be a good chance of emerging with a steadily declining rate of inflation, some chance of repaying foreign creditors, and, if Government shackles are taken from business, a better basis for industrial expansion. Because it will appear already that the inflation is abating, the likelihood of our taking such a cure in 1976 is, however, small.

There will be in the coming year some further reduction in the rate of inflation. Monetarists forecast this decline some two years ago, and it seems to be running exactly true to prediction. This slowing down of inflation will probably persist through much of 1976, though I expect the rate still to be in the region of 15 per cent, with a fall below 10 per cent for any long period unlikely.

Real output is likely to start

invest, the rate of growth of the money supply will be augmented by the deposits generated by loans and advances to industry. The Government could prevent this explosion of the money supply by calling for finance. Nevertheless, import special deposits from the banking system and so sterilising these reserve assets; but that would merely reduce corporate borrowing from the banks and, according to conventional wisdom, delay the emergence of the economy from the slump. I suspect that the Government will not knock the boomer on the head, and will allow the money supply to expand in line with "the needs of trade." The inflationary effects of this expansion will be delayed for about 18 months to two years, but the effect on the balance of payments will be quick and dramatic.

The result is familiar. With the surplus of the personal sector. (Incidentally, it was not foreseen by any economist—including me.) This surplus has been in the region of £1bn. to £1.5bn. for many years, but suddenly in 1974/75 it roughly quadrupled to £5bn.

Although there are tentative signs that it is falling slightly, many authorities have argued that it represents a more or less permanent change in the savings habits of the population.

Perhaps so, but I suspect that a contributory factor was the vast and unprecedented redistribution of income that occurred in 1974 and the first few months of 1975.

This massive increase of over 11 per cent in real wages reflected in large part the expectation that controls more onerous than the amorphous social contract were about to be clamped down. Such a performance could not be repeated, and both union leaders and wage-earners knew this.

### FORECASTS OF INFLATION AND GROWTH

	1975/6	1976/7
Public sector borrowing requirement	£bn. 12	£bn. 14
Financed by:		
Foreigners (direct and indirect)	2	3
Non-bank private sector (less foreign borrowings)	5	4
Borrowing from banks	5	7

### FORECASTS OF INFLATION AND GROWTH

Rate of inflation	1975	1976
%	24	15
Rate of growth	(-2)	2

Government allows the money why not again? That is, how supply to grow rapidly, there ever, cold comfort. The will be a vast increase in the complexion of the domestic and international monetary scene import quota controls) and a has changed so much that history cannot be relied upon to repeat itself.

Fortunately for the Chancellor, and for the U.K., the private sector increased its stock of financial assets by about £2bn. and bought much gilt-edged stock. Nevertheless, the borrowing requirement has been so large that the Chancellor has had to resort to considerable short-term borrowing.

The very rapid expansion of Treasury bills in the portfolios of banks has created the reserve base for an explosion in the money supply. Whether the banking system will expand its credit to the business community depends very much on the U.K. Such a depreciation will not affect the current balance much during 1976.

More important in the Government's eyes, the depreciation

allows the money why not again? That is, how supply to grow rapidly, there ever, cold comfort. The will be a vast increase in the complexion of the domestic and international monetary scene import quota controls) and a has changed so much that history cannot be relied upon to repeat itself.

First, the power of the left is much more pervasive today than ever before; the pressure to

One would expect to see some further depreciation of sterling during 1976 as the demand for pounds is reduced and the burgeoning imports run down stocks of foreign exchange.

Just how far it will sink is very difficult to forecast; my very general floating of rates of exchange.

For example, it may be urged that under conditions of inflationary depression the domestic economy should not be deflated in order to reduce imports;

selective import controls combined with expansionary policies, which would benefit other imports, would be much more preferable. Such seductive arguments will be put forward

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## 1976 PROJECTION ▷ The American Economy

# The dog that did bark, but went unheard

By PROFESSOR PAUL A. SAMUELSON, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

**THE GREAT** depression that so many people feared a year ago did not occur. The view of monetarists that U.S. recovery could not begin before the final months of 1975 at the earliest proved to be about as unfounded as a guess about the future as had been those zealots' earlier guess in the late summer of 1974 that the serious year-end slide-off would not occur.

What did happen was that recovery began in the American economy after the first quarter of the year—about in line with the preponderant majority of the many "consensus" forecasts that I monitor. Our recovery came long before that of Germany, Japan, and the rest of the world generally.

### Malignant pattern

The Keynesian measures of fiscal and monetary expansion that 23 out of 28 of the economic experts urged at the September, 1974, Summit on President Gerald Ford and Federal Reserve Governor Arthur Burns—and which received a cool hearing at the time—proved for once to be about the needed dosage to bring to a halt what could have turned into a nasty slump, nasty but presumably not endless in the malignant pattern of the 1930s.

As it was, the U.S. economy experienced a growth recession from March 1973 to July 1975. And the magnitude and the sharpness of the decline following the summer of 1974 constituted the most serious American recession since 1939, the most serious in the Age of Keynes.

Economic historians will probably deem 1975 the year with the most worldwide stagnation of any in the last 40 years. Recently the International Labor Office reported more people in the world listed as unemployed than has occurred since the mid-1920s.

A careful estimate of whole-world Gross National Product, for sober men of affairs kept

didn't bark." But never dreamed than 8 per cent. this last year. of by Conan Doyle was the case of the dog that barked loudly and yet no one seemed to hear.

Moreover,

those who counsel policy moderation keep saying, "Just you wait. Double-digit price inflation is waiting to break out again, given any encouragement from over-expansionary fiscal and monetary policies." Where-

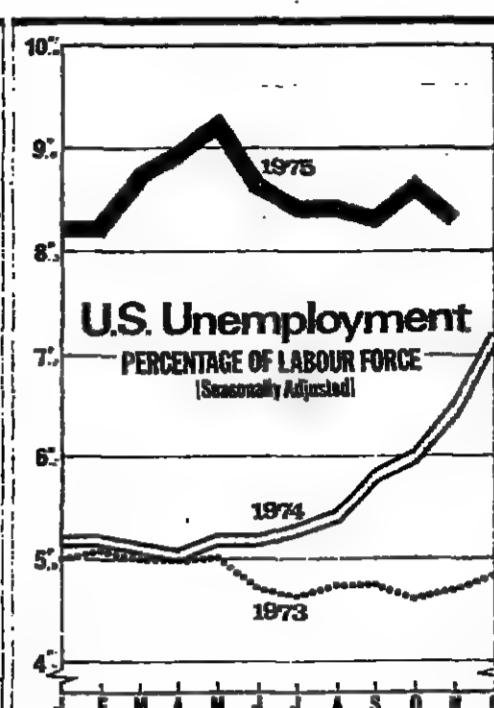
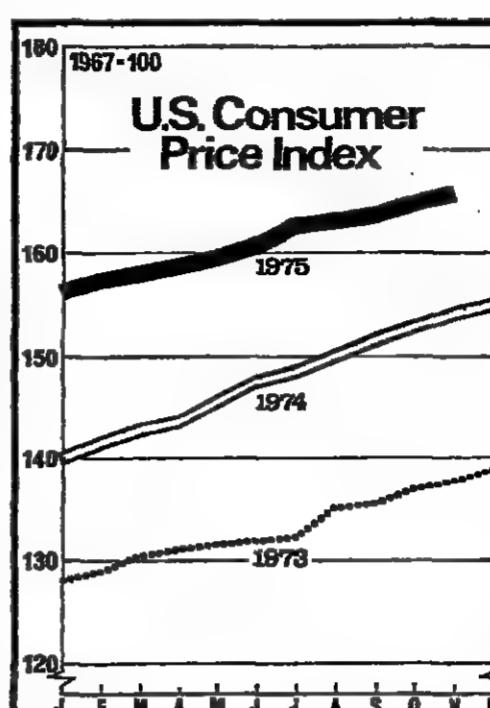
re-election that this time he will lean over backwards to affirm his non-political credo.

Against the above background, one can understand why the consensus forecasters who have been worth listening to in the past—as for example, in alphabetical order, Chase Econometrics (Dr. Michael Evans), the Conference Board (Dr. Albert T. Somers in his private capacity), Data Resources, Inc. (Professor Otto Eckstein of Harvard), George Perry and Walter Heller, the Wharton Penn Model (Dr. Lawrence Klein et al.)—are in general agreement on the following projections:

1. 1976 will be another year of continued U.S. economic expansion: real GNP is likely to grow about 5½ to 6 per cent in the calendar year, which is above our long-run trend rate of potential growth by 2 per cent.

2. Employment will rise as production increases. But productivity ought at this stage of the trade cycle to continue to be better than its disappointing performance in the early 1970s. This, plus the return of disengaged job seekers to the labour market and the continuation of the trend towards more wives seeking paying jobs, will moderate progress in reducing the unemployment rate. By year's end, 1976 unemployment will probably be as near to 7½ per cent as to 7 per cent.

3. 1976 is a big year for union collective bargaining: the rubber workers, teamsters, electrical equipment workers, and auto workers will set the pattern



### 1976 QUARTERLY FORECASTS FOR U.S.

CHASE ECONOMETRICS

	I	II	III	IV	4-quarter average
Real GNP growth* (%)	6.2	6.5	5.6	5.8	6.1
Price index growth* (%)	5.6	6.0	6.2	7.8	6.8
Money GNP growth* (%)	12.1	12.8	12.1	14.2	12.8
Money supply growth* (%)	7.9	9.0	8.1	8.2	8.5
(M1: currency and demand deposits)					
Profit growth* (%)	41.4	22.3	16.4	25.7	24.1
Unemployment rate	8.1	7.8	7.5	7.4	
Short-term interest rates (91-day Treasury bills)	6½%	7½%	7½%	8%	
Long-term interest rates (AAI corporate bonds)	9½%	9½%	9½%	10½%	

\* Percentages are expressed as annual rates

by Dr. Herbert Block for the doubting that the economic recovery had yet begun. Even being always right, albeit unheeded, the wisest know that

as Cassandra preened herself on

grew in pre-recession 1973 by learn that real output had

8.8 per cent. Such a number, grown in the third quarter at a

helped to be sure by a respite from bad weather, puts quite in

the shade the typical good years of historic capitalism under Queen Victoria or President

Teddy Roosevelt. And it puts

into a new perspective the flat-footed assertion of Club of

Rome neo-Malthusians that the growth game is now, willy-nilly, about played out.

We have become tired of double-digit range, about 12 per cent, living costs have risen less

in 1972 to help Richard Nixon's

agreement with it.

None the less, 1976 is an election year. And this may shade the odds in favour of a more

expansive fiscal policy. It could also bias Federal Reserve

monetary policy in that same

direction. But, I am told by

Washington gossips, Dr. Burns

is so sensitive over the charge

that he erred on the high side

of his own with his outspoken criticisms of the voting

process of the PLO through the United Nations. Next month it looks as if PLO representatives will take part in a Security Council debate. The Israelis do not like it and have once again been quarrelling with the Americans, despite the fact that in the last resort the U.S. is Israel's only ally. Clearly the Israeli hawks must hope that preoccupation with domestic politics will prevent the U.S. Administration's seeking more Israeli concessions in what is probably Dr. Kissinger's last year in office. Ironically that must also be the hope of the "Arab" "rejectionist front." But if Dr. Kissinger's gradualist diplomacy is out, the situation again becomes unpredictable.

The prospects are not very satisfactory, but at least some of yesterday's worries about recession leading to political instability have eased. The French have not taken to the barricades, and in West Germany there is a reasonable chance that Chancellor Helmut Schmidt's coalition will be returned to power in the Federal elections next autumn, despite having presided over 1m. unemployed.

Europe, however, continues to look over its shoulder at the U.S. because political developments there have become so uncertain. Next year is a Presidential election year with a difference. The incumbent President is seeking not re-election but election, since he was not elected to his office in the first place. At present, he appears unsure even of his own party's nomination. All this is happening at a time when the U.S. has partially not recovered from the shocks of Vietnam and Watergate and the revelations about the activities of the Central Intelligence Agency. It is also a time of exceptional fluidity in international affairs.

The prospects for detente

Less than six months after the signing of the final act of the European Security Conference in Helsinki, the prospects for East-West detente, too, have become distinctly cloudy. Indeed, Helsinki itself seems to have marked the turning point away from, rather than towards, the further relaxation of tension. The timetable foreseen last summer was for a second Strategic Arms Limitation Agreement (SALT 2) between the Americans and the Russians some time in the autumn. It was to have been ceremoniously signed by President Gerald Ford and the Soviet leader, Mr. Leonid Brezhnev, in Washington. Next year would then have become the year of MBFR, Mutually Balanced Forces Reductions, in Central Europe, giving detente the military dimension which the Security Conference lacked.

It has not worked out like this. Dr. Kissinger may now go to Moscow next month in an attempt to settle the outstanding differences, but he is running into time problems, not all of which are on the American side. Mr. Brezhnev faces the 25th Soviet Party Congress at the end of February. He would have liked to have had SALT 2 before then. Now, his power over the Soviet party machine is evidently slipping and it may be difficult to reach another agreement with the U.S. even if he wanted to. In MBFR the Administration is opposed to what is happening but has been deliberately rejected.

Those examples are conjectural, but there are others which are unavoidable and where the U.S.'s action, or inaction, will be crucial to stability. The Middle East is one, East-West detente another, and the north-south dialogue a third.

It is quite possible, for example, that 1976 will see changes in the leadership in both Moscow and Peking, and perhaps the departure of President Tito in Yugoslavia. Any or all of these events would require the closest vigilance, but it is not certain that the U.S. is capable of reacting except in terms of domestic political considerations. The continuity of American foreign policy and, indeed, the role of the U.S. as a world power are in doubt.

Dr. Henry Kissinger's step by step diplomacy in the Middle East has run into difficulties. None more as a final test of what is happening but he has been unable to get its way.

### Angola a prime example

Angola is a prime example. Fifteen years ago there would have been no doubt of the American will and ability to outmatch the Soviet intervention. Post-Vietnam, however, the dominant American reaction is to query the need to do anything at all. Officially, Western Europe on the whole regrets this, but it is incapable of doing anything on its own. The result is that the Soviet Union is moving into an area way beyond its traditional spheres of interest, and the definition of detente as an agreement to maintain the status quo has been

formal part of the dialogue is, but certainly here is another potential bone of contention between the Americans and the Europeans. The Conference on International Economic Cooperation, as it is now called,

was set up under the auspices of President Giscard d'Estaing, and the hope of reaching a satisfactory settlement by contrast, even the Administration is divided. Mr. Daniel Patrick Moynihan, the U.S. Permanent Representative at the UN, has established a constituency which may be ready to concede too much in SALT 2 has been growing.

On the North-South dialogue, was set up under the auspices of President Giscard d'Estaing, and Chancellor Schmidt appears to believe in it, yet the largest economic power may be unable to produce a consistent policy and, as the U.S. elections come nearer, may at best do nothing but stall and at worst adopt the approach of Mr. Moynihan.

For Europe it might be more reassuring if the elections were likely to produce a clear cut result and definable guidelines for U.S. policy in future. The loss of American self-confidence, however, may be such that the internal arguments will continue and the trend, shown in the reaction to Angola, against the exercise of global power may turn into isolationism. This means more than a waiting period for the Europeans: they will be compelled to give more consideration to their own role in the world.

It is true that there is a certain amount of time in hand and that there are some favourable elements: for example, the strength and stability of West Germany and the closeness of its relationship with France. Most of the weak spots in Europe are due to international divisions and incompetence—not to the skill or success of Soviet policy. They are also remediable internally, if the will is there. European prosperity and security, in short, have been accepted as the natural order of things. In each of the past three years there has been a series of shocks—the Yom Kippur War and the rift between Europe and America in 1973, the economic upheavals which followed in 1974, and the failure of the economies to yield, at least until lately, to conventional treatment. The shock of 1975 may well be the general discovery that the military balance of power is shifting too far to the East. That too is remediable, but it will require considerable courage for European Governments to act and, not least, an ability to convince the Americans that Europe is ready to play a larger part in the Atlantic relationship.

Mr. Moynihan's style is less diplomatic than Dr. Kissinger's, but Dr. Kissinger also has difficulties with the Treasury on how far the U.S. is prepared to go in establishing the new international economic order which, for the Third World, is the aim of the North-South dialogue. It is arguable how important the formal part of the dialogue is, but certainly here is another potential bone of contention between the Americans and the Europeans. The Conference on International Economic Cooperation, as it is now called,

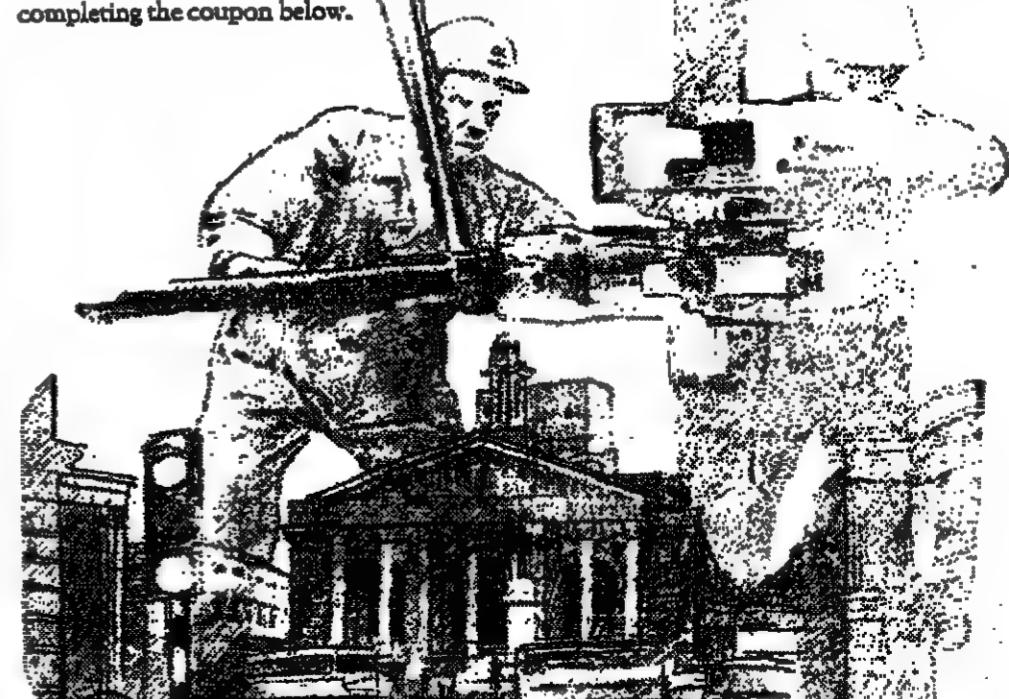
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# BOOKS

## A full and varied year of general publishing

BY ANTHONY CURTIS

Nineteen seventy-five was the Charles Stuart, the paranoias almost cost him his life, wrote year that began with a book ranting of the latter put about elephants by Iain and one reviewer in mind of King Orde Douglas-Hamilton and Lear. But the most controversial was with *The Diaries of Cabinet Minister Vol. 1; Minister of Housing 1944-46* by Richard Crossman. In between these two fascinating studies of dominant groups in an aggressive society new books pour out, unwittingly from the presses in every category of publishing with a particular emphasis on biography.

Let us stay for a moment at Cabinet level. Harold Macmillan in *The Past Masters* and Lord Blaikie in *The Office of Prime Minister* both looked back at some outstanding leaders, among them Churchill and Lloyd George. The official biography of Churchill by Martin Gilbert reached its fourth volume covering the period 1917-22, while in some new light on LG both in and out of the cabinet room flowed from Life with Lloyd George by A. D. Sylvester edited by Colin Cross and from My Darling Fussy: The Letters of Lloyd George and Frances Stevenson, A Prime Minister, a Bishop, a Provost of Eton, an adviser to the Egyptian government were all offices held by one noble family, its members pleasantly put into a single volume by Kenneth Rose in his study of *The Later Cecils*. There was a book that recreated life, at Hatfield and at other places where the family gathered, in a wealth of detail and anecdote.

Indeed, the year brought more than its fair share of insights into the daily lives of those who have held power in our century: *The Collapse of Democracy*, an indictment of many different western societies. Denis Hills in *The White Pumpkin*, a book that

with first-hand experience of a country where it has collapsed, and Alexander Solzhenitsyn in *Gulag 2* and Andrei Sakharov in *My Country and the World spoke more painfully and at length of another.*

Some of the most memorable autobiographies took us altogether away from politics and the facts of contemporary oppression. Someone had the notion of eliciting a book of memoirs from Lady Astor's maid, and the best-selling, eminently readable result was Rose: *My Life in Service* by Rosina Harrison, a pasteur-downstairs with a real-life cast English country house life from another angle was most witty. It ministered in *Ancestral Voices* by James Lees-Milne, a diary kept while on his visits to historic houses as an official of the National Trust in the early years of the war. Two great pedagogues looked back upon a lifetime's teaching, J. C. Masterman in *On the Chariot Wheel* and N. B. C. Lucas in *An Experience of Teaching*, one at Oxford and the other at Midhurst. Robert Lusty took us into the world of publishing in *Reunited* to Be Neale with a real-life cast of English publishing houses as an official of India. Zahoor Maani brought out his life of Indira Gandhi just before his heroine locked up the opposition. A foretaste of biographical things on the way was the first volume of Sarvepalli Gopal's life of Nehru and Nirad C. Chaudhuri's life of Washington. What Washington began had to end one day and Robert Moss predicted this had already begun to happen in *The Collapse of Democracy*, an indictment of many different western societies. Denis Hills in

Literature, too, offered some doubt continue to do so for as

surprises but these were mainly in the form of revelations about the private lives of eminent writers and philosophers rather than the appearance of undisputed masterpieces. Several authors made a splash, especially letters made a splash, especially those of Evelyn H. G. Wells and Rebecca West, which provided the base for Gordon N. Ray's biographical book about these two literary lovers, and those from the young Cyril Connolly in February is another who remains firmly in place. The biography of him by David A. Jasen reminded us of how active he was in his youth in the musical-comedy theatre and told one or two good stories.

Hundreds more stories by and about most of the great English writers were collected together by James Sutherland in his *Oxford Book of Literary Anecdotes*, a book that deserves to be read. Yvonne Mitchell's *Woolf* brought his great *Mosaic* series to a close. Mr. Powell is now reported to be hard at work upon the first volume of his own memoirs. And ever there was one. A work from the same press, George Steiner's *After Babel* diagnosed, with vast learning and research and a fine sense of drama, deficiencies in the medium all writers are obliged to use, language itself, and became the talking-point of the year in departments of literature.

\* \* \*

Nonetheless a great many people still continue to try to make creative use of the English language. One of the more encouraging signs has been a revival of the short story or at least a readiness by publishers to issue collections that their authors are commanding enough names.: partly stem from TV where series like *Shades of Greene* and *Tea in the Twenties* happily kick back in the best young prospect.

Thomas Keneally looked back to the first war period in *Goodbye to the Forest*, V. S. Naipaul to a trouble-torn island in *Guerrillas* and Martin Amis, the author of *Bucket of Blood*, Billington (*A Painted Devil*), Boris Bainbridge (*Sweet William*), and Sarah Calman (*To the Opera Ball*).

If Poirier has now left us, the little grey cells at last switched off, in crime fiction this has been a year when the dead have walked and talked and sleuthed again on more than one occasion.

It began with *Raffles* revisited by Barry Perera, and Malvern Brumby's *Death of a Gentleman*, Elliott Heathen on Earth, Pamela Hansford Johnson (*The Good Listener*), Christine Brook Rose (*Thru*), Maureen Duffy (*Capital*), Rachel Billington (*A Painted Devil*), Boris Bainbridge (*Sweet William*), and Sarah Calman (*To the Opera Ball*).

All in all, then, a year in which a great deal of ground was covered, not least by Paul Theroux whose *The Great Railway Bazaar* revealed that it is still possible to travel light and Vaughn's *Darkness like pitch* which Tom Parker who showed that the monotonous routine of an isolated group of men can be just as rewarding in the trained observer in *Lighthouse*.

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## Civil servant of God

BY C. P. SNOW

John Calvin by T. H. L. Parker. Dent, £5.95. 190 pages

altogether easy reading. The the Word of God a good many author is a theologian, and the book would lose its authority if he weren't. After all, no one would write about Gladstone unless he had a certain interest in political affairs. Calvin himself was first of all a theologian, and his was one of his temperamental strengths: an affectionate friend of rock-like loyalty.

Finally, he was the leader, often precariously and on sufferance, of a theocratic state: not the only one of the High Reformation, but, because of his own magnetism and intellect, the one which has attracted most attention, usually unfavourable.

To get such a life into any sort of proportion needs some effort. The book couldn't have been written unless Dr. Parker had been in fairly close theological sympathy with his subject, and it probably won't mean much except to those who have at least an amateur taste for religious disputation. Here I had better come clean. I was brought up in the broad Church of England. My grandfather, the most thoughtful man I knew as a child, was a firm unbeliever, but, in the best Victorian manner, a plaus George Eliot-type unbeliever: I passed into disbelief without any conflict at all, but all my life have kept an interest in those controversies. I probably heard more about Protestant doctrine, which is at its root Calvinist, than an average child would nowadays.

Calvin was a Frenchman. In his young manhood he spelt his name Cauchy. Did he change the spelling, one wonders, because Calvin looks more natural in Latin? It was in Latin that he wrote the great *Institutio Christianae Religionis*, a statement which had an effect on the most dynamic forces in the west somewhat comparable to Das Kapital, and which like Das Kapital was more used for battle cries than read. He himself translated the *Institutio* into French, lucid and beautiful French. It isn't an accident that so many figures of the Reformation, Calvin, Luther,

Tyndale, Cranmer, had a determining influence on their own writings. They believed in the Scriptures, and so the Scriptures had to be made available in the vernaculars. They all happened to possess great literary gifts; or perhaps because they believed in what they were writing, they couldn't help but write it well.

Jean Calvin was born into the ecclesiastical civil service. He was trained as a lawyer, and there is a legal insistence about a good deal of his work, much more so than in Luther's. As a pure intellect, Calvin is a long way the most impressive of the Reformation leaders. He would have adored the French intellectual world in any century. When he gave up law and became converted, he was, in his early twenties, recognised at once as one of the dominant minds of his time. It is engrossing to notice that he didn't discourage this process. He sent out his books for review, so to speak, as assiduously as a modern young writer determined to make the grade—though, in his case, with a more complicated purpose.

He believed in the universal Catholic Church. But he didn't believe in the Papacy, which is of first importance, this was the essential part of his ministry. Most of his energies, which in spite of indifferent health, some of it psychosomatic, were formidable, had to be devoted to commentaries on the scriptures. Get those right, and the rest ought to follow — though he had an unillusioned sense of human infirmity, and knew that the rest didn't follow.

To twentieth century men there is something odd about this faith in reversed truth, so as not to work from secondary sources. But it doesn't seem to have occurred to them that the Greek and Hebrew seems to have been carried over from Marxism. The doctrinal struggles, based upon the received texts, have been every bit as intense—and for the next century or so are likely to be more significant — as any future to come.

It would have surprised Calvin that his name would be associated with the doctrine of predestination, and with nothing else. Of course, he believed in it. So did St. Augustine and Calvin could see no difference between Augustine's exposition and his own. This isn't such a paradox as it seems. In fact, just the same has happened with Marxism. The doctrinal struggle, based upon the received texts, have been every bit as intense—and for the next century or so are likely to be more significant — as any future to come.

What is perhaps stranger is that men as clever as Calvin and the rest had so little sense of textual criticism. The Word of God had been made through men, fallible men. That they accepted and said, "Such men sometimes contradicted each other. That was God's intention," in making his word known in human language.

Further, the sixteen-century Biblical scholars knew, of course, that many of the translations were faulty. Calvin and his colleagues equipped themselves with Greek and Hebrew bibles, and after him Philip Larkin. The poems display much feeling and have a truly distinctive tone; when a sonnet creeps in, it is finely controlled. There is little wastage in the form of diction or cliché; the poems work excellently within their tight forms. This is a most welcome first volume.

Elizabeth Jennings has been badly used by fashion: taken up in the early Fifties as the best young British poet, she was abruptly "dropped"—a discouraging experience. Her work fell off in quality. Growing Points (Capestan, £2.75, paper £1.50), the best of her 11 volumes, demonstrates that she has developed out of her old drams. The sonnets which open the collection are some of the best of our time.

These are graceful, pure in diction, misleadingly formal; yet their cadence is as entirely original as the author's choice of words. The final effect is extremely moving: of a candour whose torment is relieved only



Calvin in the 1540s at about 35

selves with Greek and Hebrew Objectively, as the Marxists say. Calvinism was a progressive force: yet for its justification it was always looking backwards. This isn't such a paradox as it seems. In fact, just the same has happened with Marxism. The doctrinal struggle, based upon the received texts, have been every bit as intense—and for the next century or so are likely to be more significant — as any future to come.

It would have surprised Calvin that his name would be associated with the doctrine of predestination, and with nothing else. Of course, he believed in it. So did St. Augustine and Calvin could see no difference between Augustine's exposition and his own. This isn't such a paradox as it seems. In fact, just the same has happened with Marxism. The doctrinal struggle, based upon the received texts, have been every bit as intense—and for the next century or so are likely to be more significant — as any future to come.

What is perhaps stranger is that men as clever as Calvin and the rest had so little sense of textual criticism. The Word of God had been made through men, fallible men. That they accepted and said, "Such men sometimes contradicted each other. That was God's intention," in making his word known in human language.

Further, the sixteen-century Biblical scholars knew, of course, that many of the translations were faulty. Calvin and his colleagues equipped themselves with Greek and Hebrew bibles, and after him Philip Larkin. The poems display much feeling and have a truly distinctive tone; when a sonnet creeps in, it is finely controlled. There is little wastage in the form of diction or cliché; the poems work excellently within their tight forms. This is a most welcome first volume.

## Monster monitored

BY MICHAEL THOMPSON-NOEL

The Loch Ness Story by Nicholas Witchell. Penguin Books. 70p. 156 pages

large animate objects in the 20-30 foot size range.

## WALL STREET + OVERSEAS MARKETS

## + FOREIGN EXCHANGES

## Slightly lower in early trading

BY OUR WALL STREET CORRESPONDENT

**SLIGHTLY LOWER** levels were recorded on Wall Street today, reflecting traditional year-end factors such as tax selling and portfolio switching. But there was little pressure to either buy or sell.

By 1 p.m. the Dow Jones Industrial Average was off \$3.30 to \$332.27 and the NYSE All Common Index lost 12 cents to \$47.42, while declines led advances by about a six-to-five majority. Trading

Closing prices and market reports were not available for this edition.

volume dropped 2.13m. shares to 8.90m. compared with 1 m. yesterday.

News that U.S. Leading Economic Indicators for November rose 0.4 per cent, after a 0.4 per cent revised decline in October had little impact on the Stock Market.

Singer fell \$1 to \$59 on 86,100 shares—it announced that it was taking a \$400m. write-off to discontinue its Business Machines Division and would be unable to pay dividends in 1976, due to a net loss.

Faces added \$1 at \$46 on shareholders' approval of liquidation plans.

Texas Commerce Bankshares rose \$1 to \$32—the Federal Reserve Board approved its proposed acquisition of First Texas Corporation.

Ti Corp. rose up \$1 to \$124, and "Over-the-Counter" Zenith National Insurance held unchanged at \$21-\$33. Zenith National agreed to lease, with an option to buy, its home office building in Los Angeles to TI.

Polaroid surrendered \$1 to \$302, Merck \$1 to \$632, Coca-Cola \$1 to \$51. Johnson and Johnson \$14 to \$89 and Eltra \$1 to \$30.

Prudential added \$13 to \$311, A.M. Best \$1 to \$313. Dan and Benson \$1 to \$28; Denver \$1 to \$26; Crocker \$1 to \$63 and Du Pont \$1 to \$261.

But Superior Oil picked up \$2, to \$163; Carter Hawley Hale rose \$1 to \$34. United Nuclear put on \$1 to \$162; Air Products and Chemical improved \$1 to \$68.

Cleveland-Cliffs rose gained \$1 to \$46; and Halliburton were up \$1 to \$147.

The American SE Market Value Index slipped 0.17 to \$24.60, while declines led advances by 236-to-182. Trading volume decreased 450,000 shares to 1.05m. shares, compared with 1 p.m. yesterday.

Shenandoah Oil rose \$1 to \$23.33.

## OTHER MARKETS

**Canada easier** Canadian Stock Markets were mostly easier in light trading yesterday morning.

The Gold Share Index lost 1.23 to 265.37, Western Oils 0.10 to 147.76, Utilities 0.34 to 123.63.

## Indices

## NEW YORK

## DOW JONES AVERAGES

## STANDARD AND POORS

## U.S. STOCK INDICES

## TOKYO NEW SE INDEX

## SYDNEY ALL ORD. INDEX

## STOCK AND BOND YIELDS

## HONG KONG INDEX \*

## MONDAY'S ACTIVE STOCKS

## IND. DIVIDEND YIELD P.C.

## TORONTO

## INDUSTRIAL INDEX

## MONTREAL

## INDUSTRIAL INDEX

## JOHANNESBURG

## AMERICAN SE MARKET VALUE INDEX

## OVERSEAS SHARE INFORMATION

## NEW YORK

## Stock

## Dec.

## 25

## Stock



## STOCK EXCHANGE REPORT

## Gilt-edged and equities make further good progress

Share index 3 points off 1975 peak at 374.8, up 6.7

## Account Dealing Dates

**First Declar.** Last Account Dealings from Dealings Day Dec. 12 Dec. 23 Dec. 24 Jan. 7 Dec. 29 Jan. 8 Jan. 9 Jan. 20 Jan. 12 Jan. 22 Jan. 23 Feb. 3

"Now time" dealings may take place from 9.30 a.m. two business days earlier.

Stock markets put on another very firm performance yesterday. Once again, gilt-edged stocks led the way ahead, with the emphasis centred on the short end of the market where another brisk trade was seen in the "lap" stock. Fresh gains in the shorts ranged to 3%, while mediums and longs closed with more modest rises to 1%. The Government Securities index rose 0.12 more to 59.7 for a two-day gain of 0.37. News of the fall in the November Central Government borrowing requirement figures gave a further boost to sentiment.

Leading Industrials scored fresh gains ranging to 3% and occasionally more which left the FT All-share Index only 3 points from its high for the year with a rise of 7% to 374.8. Demand was mainly still, although a few sizeable buying orders were seen and there was a noticeable increase in activity compared with Monday's extremely low level. Official markings of 4.932 compared with 2.952 on Monday.

As with the leaders, trading again left much to be desired. Nevertheless, trading in the little-known widespread. Higher led falls by 7% in FT quoted Industrials, while the more broadly based FT Actuaries All-share index advanced 1.6 per cent to 157.30. Properties were prominent following news that Smith Bros, stockjobbers, had decided to start dealing in this sector in the New Year. The FT-Actuaries index for the section rose 3.8 per cent to 179.74.

Gilt-edged were in no way upstaged by equities and extended

the recent upturn, although the recent gains were generally slightly smaller than the previous day. Treasury 10% per cent, 1978, "A," the short "lap" again traded heavily and the Government broker raised his price once; the stock's exhaustion to-day would not be a major surprise. Low-coupon shorts also remained popular, registering gains to 3% where stock was in short supply, while a fair business was conducted in selected medium-maturities. The longer apart from the "lap" Treasury 13% per cent, "A," which had been followed by the Government broker were similarly better at 302p.

The drinks sector was featured by Distillers, which rose 4 to 145p on a bullish broker's circular. Breweries were inclined harder,

ICI continued firmly in continued into higher ground, gaining 4 more to 430p; hopes persist that either a bonus "rights" issue or share split will be announced with the preliminary results on January 14. British Northrop featured again with a rise of 4 to 237p, while Debenham's, 87p, both closed around 3% harder. F.W. Woolworth, still reflecting Press comment, picked up 11 more to 175p per cent of 121p, though some behaviour erratically, improving to 225p before closing 2 better on balance at 235p. Knott Mill ended 3 up at 16p after the interim report, while Belton Textile moved up 14 to 121p following the annual meeting. Other firm spots included Status Discount, 3 harder at 34p, and Mothercare, 4 better at 176p. Mail Orders also edged higher. Freemans (London), finishing 2 firmer at 146p and Grafton Warehouses 3 dearer at 94p.

Electrical leaders generally improved afresh in rather quiet trading, with EEC providing the best spot at 118p, up 3. GEC closed 3 firmer at 142p, after 140p, and Thorn Electrical 4 better at 216p. Plessey, new nil-paid attracted a fair deal of interest and touched 81p premium, before ending a penny firmer at 71p premium, while the old closed similarly harder at 87p. Elsewhere, Dees moved up 6 more to 238p in a limited market, while the "A" added 3 at 272p. Electronic Rentals, with intention results due Friday, firmed 2 to 70p, but Telefusors contrasted with a loss of 2 at 25p.

Some leading Engineering drifted away from the day's highest. Tube Investments closings a net 4 dearer at 318p, after 322p, and GRN a like amount higher at 268p, after 270p. Still mirroring Press mention, John Brown traded more briskly and rose 3 further to 269p, while Staveley moved up 8 to 135p on the chairman's confident view of prospects. Weyburn

Chemicals, rising another 4 to a 1975 peak of 334p.

"Gusses" "A" led Stores into higher ground, closing 6 up at 201p. British Home Stores revived with a gain of 4 to 327p, while House of Fraser, 72p, and Debenhams, 87p, both closed around 3% harder. F.W. Woolworth, still reflecting Press comment, picked up 11 more to 175p per cent of 121p, though some behaviour erratically, improving to 225p before closing 2 better on balance at 235p. Knott Mill ended 3 up at 16p after the interim report, while Belton Textile moved up 14 to 121p following the annual meeting. Other firm spots included Status Discount, 3 harder at 34p, and Mothercare, 4 better at 176p. Mail Orders also edged higher. Freemans (London), finishing 2 firmer at 146p and Grafton Warehouses 3 dearer at 94p.

Pilkington react

Business was somewhat livelier in the miscellaneous Industrial leaders, which closed modestly higher. Beecham, 245p, and Reckitt and Colman, 330p, both improved 5 while Boots, 128p, and Glaxo, 273p, added 3 apiece. Pilkington, on the other hand, provided 3 to 207p on news that the company had been offered

Stater Walker's 28 per cent stake

in Rockware; the latter, following a rise of 4 on Monday, hardened to a 1975 peak of 71p before

ending unaltered on the day at 69p.

A Press recommendation for 1976 strike prices of 4 to 48p.

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## FINANCIAL TIMES STOCK INDICES

	Dec. 29	Dec. 28	Dec. 27	Dec. 26	Dec. 25	Dec. 24	Dec. 23	Dec. 22	Dec. 21	Dec. 20	Dec. 19	Dec. 18	Dec. 17	Dec. 16	Dec. 15	Dec. 14	Dec. 13	Dec. 12	Dec. 11	Dec. 10	Dec. 9	Dec. 8	Dec. 7	Dec. 6	Dec. 5	Dec. 4	Dec. 3	Dec. 2	Dec. 1	Nov. 30	Nov. 29	Nov. 28	Nov. 27	Nov. 26	Nov. 25	Nov. 24	Nov. 23	Nov. 22	Nov. 21	Nov. 20	Nov. 19	Nov. 18	Nov. 17	Nov. 16	Nov. 15	Nov. 14	Nov. 13	Nov. 12	Nov. 11	Nov. 10	Nov. 9	Nov. 8	Nov. 7	Nov. 6	Nov. 5	Nov. 4	Nov. 3	Nov. 2	Nov. 1	Oct. 31	Oct. 30	Oct. 29	Oct. 28	Oct. 27	Oct. 26	Oct. 25	Oct. 24	Oct. 23	Oct. 22	Oct. 21	Oct. 20	Oct. 19	Oct. 18	Oct. 17	Oct. 16	Oct. 15	Oct. 14	Oct. 13	Oct. 12	Oct. 11	Oct. 10	Oct. 9	Oct. 8	Oct. 7	Oct. 6	Oct. 5	Oct. 4	Oct. 3	Oct. 2	Oct. 1	Sept. 30	Sept. 29	Sept. 28	Sept. 27	Sept. 26	Sept. 25	Sept. 24	Sept. 23	Sept. 22	Sept. 21	Sept. 20	Sept. 19	Sept. 18	Sept. 17	Sept. 16	Sept. 15	Sept. 14	Sept. 13	Sept. 12	Sept. 11	Sept. 10	Sept. 9	Sept. 8	Sept. 7	Sept. 6	Sept. 5	Sept. 4	Sept. 3	Sept. 2	Sept. 1	Aug. 31	Aug. 30	Aug. 29	Aug. 28	Aug. 27	Aug. 26	Aug. 25	Aug. 24	Aug. 23	Aug. 22	Aug. 21	Aug. 20	Aug. 19	Aug. 18	Aug. 17	Aug. 16	Aug. 15	Aug. 14	Aug. 13	Aug. 12	Aug. 11	Aug. 10	Aug. 9	Aug. 8	Aug. 7	Aug. 6	Aug. 5	Aug. 4	Aug. 3	Aug. 2	Aug. 1	July 31	July 30	July 29	July 28	July 27	July 26	July 25	July 24	July 23	July 22	July 21	July 20	July 19	July 18	July 17	July 16	July 15	July 14	July 13	July 12	July 11	July 10	July 9	July 8	July 7	July 6	July 5	July 4	July 3	July 2	July 1	June 30	June 29	June 28	June 27	June 26	June 25	June 24	June 23	June 22	June 21	June 20	June 19	June 18	June 17	June 16	June 15	June 14	June 13	June 12	June 11	June 10	June 9	June 8	June 7	June 6	June 5	June 4	June 3	June 2	June 1	May 31	May 30	May 29	May 28	May 27	May 26	May 25	May 24	May 23	May 22	May 21	May 20	May 19	May 18	May 17	May 16	May 15	May 14	May 13	May 12	May 11	May 10	May 9	May 8	May 7	May 6	May 5	May 4	May 3	May 2	May 1	April 30	April 29	April 28	April 27	April 26	April 25	April 24	April 23	April 22	April 21	April 20	April 19	April 18	April 17	April 16	April 15	April 14	April 13	April 12	April 11	April 10	April 9	April 8	April 7	April 6	April 5	April 4	April 3	April 2	April 1	March 31	March 30	March 29	March 28	March 27	March 26	March 25	March 24	March 23	March 22	March 21	March 20	March 19	March 18	March 17	March 16	March 15	March 14	March 13	March 12	March 11	March 10	March 9	March 8	March 7	March 6	March 5	March 4	March 3	March 2	March 1	February 28	February 27	February 26	February 25	February 24	February 23	February 22	February 21	February 20	February 19	February 18	February 17	February 16	February 15	February 14	February 13	February 12	February 11	February 10	February 9	February 8	February 7	February 6	February 5	February 4</



# **FT SHARE INFORMATION SERVICE**

## **BANKS AND HIRE PURCHASE**

Low	Stock	Price	W	Dv.	Y.M.
			Per	Per	Per
135	Alexanders P. £1	233	-6	11.66	7.7
140	Alegerence Fl. 100	£101	+10	12.20	3.3
190	Allen Harvey £1	380	+10	11.15	5.2
145	Allied £1	120	+2	Q25%	—
14	Auto Control	46	—	—	7.7
95	Auerbach L. £1	145	—	9.7	—
107	Avril. & N.D. £1	413	-4	Q51.48	0.8
221	Bant.Amer. \$1.15	£34	-4	Q51.48	0.8
222	Ba. Hispaniol. £1	324	+5	Q51.48	2.4
282	Bk. Ireland £1	350	+5	Q51.48	4.0
566	De Upp. Co. \$1.96	£147.2	+2	Q10%	—
16	Bk. Leman A.H. £1	220	—	Q15%	—
188	Bk. Leuna (UK) £1	220	—	7.25	—
370	Bk. N.S.W. \$2	650	-10	Q28%	3.5
104	Bank Scotland £1	290	+2	18.31	2.4
202	Bank New Y. \$1.00	225%	+2	Q53.00	6.4
172	Barclays £1	298	—	18.29	4.2
19	Bates (Edward)	40	+1	—	—
18	Bowring (C. T.)	72	—	12.11	2.2
75	Brown Shillings £1	185	+15	Q51.54	4.0
110	Cater Ryder £1	265	+15	14.40	1.5
1	Cedar House 20p	136	—	21.4	—
45	Chee Durai £1.20	69	+4	3.0	—
149	Com. I. Am. \$1.00	285	+8	Q14%	—
12	Com. Int'l. DMC \$1	151.8	+6	Q17%	—
171	Cook Hill Kr. 100	£243.4	+4	Q11%	—
4	Corinthian £1	6	—	—	—
101	Cred. France Fr. 5	£31.2	—	Q9.75	2.9
65	Dawes N.G. £1	75	—	5.25	—
9	Daybreak Day	15	—	0.5	—
25	E.C. Finance	30	—	+1.57	—
11	Fir. Nat. 10p	2	—	+1.05	—
1	Flo. Writs 75-93	130	+6	—	—
51	Fraser Aug. 10p	130	+6	0.76	—
175	Gerrard Steel	300	+7	Q12.3	—
22	Gibbs (A.)	54	—	2.65	—
62	Gillet Bros. £1	200	+7	16.7	—
13	Goode Dt. May Sp.	20	—	8.79	1.3
21	Grindlays	36	+3	11.69	—
55	Gulf Coast Post	120	+3	7.62	—
56	Hannover	195	+5	67.75	—
23	Hill Samson	114	+5	13.87	—
200	Ho. Warrants	213	+1	—	—
113	Hong Kong \$2.50	293	+1	Q52c	—
48	Jesse Treece	80	+4	4.0	—
78	Joseph (Levi) £1	215	—	16.42	—
32	Kayser Ullmann	43	+3	2.1	—
30	King & Sons 50c	52	+2	Q3.1	—
94	Fleming R.L.	118	+2	13.19	—
18	Lovells £1	233	+2	16.93	6.0
39	Lawson Fin. 20p	27	—	Q3.25	—
122	Mercur. Secs.	134	—	1.76	—
646	Midland £1	298	+5	Q10.76	2.2
157	Do. 75c-83-93	585	+5	Q7.75	15.0
142	Do. 10c-83-93	270.4	+5	Q10.75	15.0
59	Münster Ass'tl.	54	+1	12.95	2.4
25	Nat. Bk. Ausl.-SAI	297	+2	Q10.75	—
25	Nat. Com. Grp.	21	+1	2.14	4.8
83	No. West. £1	250	+9	18.01	3.2
105	Schroders £1	350	+10	8.73	—
154	Securicor M.C. £1	240	+10	11.27	—
17	Shaw Walker	25	+1	Q5.61	—
25	Smith St. Alb.	68	+6	Q7.43	—
210	Stand'l Chart £1	485	+5	Q13.29	3.7
64	Trade Dir. S.10	561	+1	Q44.4	2.9
51	Tst. Br. Abt. 50c	58	—	Q51.48	0
157	Union Dist. £1	355	+10	11.68	—
7	U.D.T.	17	+1	B-	—
11	Wells Fargo \$5	£11.4	+8	Q96c	—
12	Wintress 20p	56	—	2.92	2.6
8					

BUILDING INDUSTRY—Continued

High	Low	Stock	Price	Net	C.
40	15	Manders' Bldg.	.35	+1	1.9
121	24	Marchwell	118	+1	6.6
28	20	Marley	94 <sup>1/2</sup>	+2	3.04
78	27	Marshalls (Rif.)	72	+2	4.26
25	23	May & Haswell	81	+2	2.29
34	13	Masons Bros.	21	+1	1.52
62	25	Meatville D. & W.	61	+2	2.32
71	18 <sup>1/2</sup>	Meyer's Mort. L.	71 <sup>1/2</sup>	+3	1.71
65	11	Milbury	21	+1	1.92
21	9	Miller (Stan) 10p.	51	+1	2.21
55	20	Misconcrete	49	+1	1.22
45	20	Mold. Engineers	49 <sup>1/2</sup>	+2	1.57
35	12	Munk (A.)	83	+4	3.93
85	20	Mowlem (L.)	79	+4	84.43
103	44	Neworth U.S.A.	104 <sup>1/2</sup>	+4	1.35
42	15	North's Dev. 10p.	48	+4	8.87
97	45	North West Holst.	97	+2	6.61
46	12 <sup>1/2</sup>	Nod. Brick 10p <sup>2</sup>	44	+1 <sup>1/2</sup>	2.14
80	39	Orme Dens. 10p.	79	+1	2.14
56	26	Phoenix Timber	57 <sup>1/2</sup>	+2	3.75
87	23	Portch. Fortune	26	+1	13.4
109	29 <sup>1/2</sup>	R.H.C.	81	+1	12.84
17	8	Reedland	198	+1	1.37
72 <sup>1/2</sup>	25	Reed & Mallik	13	+2	3.72
77	49	Richds. Wall 10p.	50	+2	3.26
49	25	Roberts' Allard.	70	+2	11.84
48	12	Rowlinson 10p <sup>2</sup>	47	+2 <sup>1/2</sup>	2.0
29 <sup>1/2</sup>	11	Rewco Group	19	+1	11.88
31	29	Rutherford	83	+2	12.65
120	35	Rugby P. Cement	103 <sup>1/2</sup>	+1	4.37
15	8	RUB Group	8	+1	0.57
40	17	Scot. Home Inv.	36	+1	1.82
34	16	Sharp & Fisher	30	+1	2.48
57	26	Shelby's Price	57	+2	0.29
13	5	Smart (J.) 10p.	120 <sup>1/2</sup>	+1 <sup>1/2</sup>	10.64
		Southern Con. Sp.		see Magnet & Son	
		Southerns-Evans		For	
150	50	Sparrow G.W. 20p.	127	+1	14.12
41	8	Streeters G. 10p.	41	+1	10.5
50	19	Summers (O.C.)	47	+1	12.0
185	58	Tarmas 50p.	185	+3	17.34
315	68	Taylor Woodrow	312	+1	4.72
240	100	Tilbury Ctg £1	238	+1	15.26
115	29	Travis & Arnold.	115	+1	10.84
198	52	Tunf. Hld. B 50p.	198	+4	18.14
79	20	UBB Group	79	+1 <sup>1/2</sup>	4.2
23	10	Ventis Stone 10p.	190	+1	1.21
106	40	Viviparism	96	+1	6.55
31	12	Ward Hedges 10p.	304 <sup>1/2</sup>	+1	2.68
34	13	Warrington	33	+1	2.88
108	52	Wat's Blake	104	+1	22.39
43	22	Westwick Prods.	34	+1	2.45
105	58	Western Bros.	77	+1	5.21
92	5	Whaling Sp.	74 <sup>1/2</sup>	+1	0.42
32	12	Whitburn Hldgs.	16	+1	—
19	7	Wiggles Con. Bhd.	13	+1	1.25
56	21	Wilson (Commlly)	61	+1	1.87
74 <sup>1/2</sup>	18 <sup>1/2</sup>	Wimpey (Geo.)	60 <sup>1/2</sup>	+1 <sup>1/2</sup>	60.52

DRAPERY AND STORES—CONTINUED									
1875		Stock		Price	+ or -	Div	Cost	Tax	Pct

Stock : Price +

J.M.J.		51
Hot. Coal. Sp.		5
Jackson J. & H.B. Sp.		23
Jevons C per 100		25
Johnson (C.H.)		152
Johnson & Firth		54
Jones Group 10%		55
Jones-Simpson		65
Kewlinda 20%		20
Ladd Group		47
Lake & Elliot		16
Lane (Percy) 10%		16
Lee (Arthur) 12%		141
Levy & Pausacker		35
Levitt		28
De 'A'		28
Lloyd (F.H.)		61
Lorcher (T) 5%		61
De 'A' 5%		61
London & Midland		54
Lynside Holdings		24
M.J. Holdings		48
Mangan Brothers		72
Marratt 10%		72
Martin (Total) 10%		45
Martinez 20%		130
McBirch & Platt		45
McKenzie Bros		74
Melegati 5%		5
Menzies 5%		25
MTR pole ind. 10%		152
Mitsubishi Inds. 5%		152
Mining Sup. 10%		152
Mitchell/Son/Mc		21
Mole (D) 20%		15
Morris (E) 50%		64
Moss Eng. 7		5
Motor Rail		3
Mountford		47
Neasey		47
Neill (Jan) Hedges		7
Newall 10%		22
Newman Gr. 10%		22
Newman Trucks		41
Nichols The Rep.		45
Norton (W.E.) 5%		5
O'Brien (S)		50
Pegler Hatfield		162
Pearce		10
Pearson 10%		31
Peter Chard 20%		42
Potter (F)		55
Pried (Ben) 5%		52
Procure 11% 200,000		52
R.C.F. Holdings		35
Raine Eng. 10%		17
R.H.P.		62
Rivmores Sun. 51		112
Rivtite Inds.		45
Ritcliffe (G.)		30
Rivard Highway		45
Rivina F.M. 10%		152
Roden E.I.		132
Ruch (John W.) 50%		48
Rutherford (Thos.)		53
Root Hart in 10%		23
Rook 10%		134
Rosenzweig		46
Sanderson Keayser		24
Saville G. (10%)		18
Savage (E.) 5%		18
Senior Eng. 10%		30
Serk		37
Shanks (J.) 10%		21
Saw Francis 20%		32
Sherbridge		32
Simon Eng. 5%		111
Sinai Group		52
Spent & Jackson		58
Spencer C.R. 20%		34
Spencer Gees 10%		34
Spirax-Sarco		125
Spomer Inds.		28
Startrite 20%		17
Staveley Inds. 51		136
Stone-Platt		94
T.C.K. Group		102
Tace 10%		13
Taylor-Pallister		13
Tecnomil		47
Tex. Ahras 10%		35
Thyssen 10%		615
Timko F.H. 5%		141
Trameco		7
Triple F dries		48
Tube lavests. 51		318
Turlock		74
Turlock (WA) 10%		36
Ud. Eng. 20%		35
Ud. Spring 10%		14
Ud. Wire Group		42
Vickers E.I.		151
Victor Products		50
W.G.I.		50
Waddin 5%		59
Wagon Located		92
Walker (C. & W.)		86

141	717	Stevens Room Sp.	11.4	+1.2	90.2%	PLD 19.8	74
122	40	Trent St. Porte	10.8	+2	7.35	1.1 10.5	33

INDUSTRIALS (Continued.)									
163	48	A.I.M.	151	+1	8.28	2.7	8.4	8.4	8.4
114	48	ADM	115	-7	12.27	3.9	10.3	13.1	13.1
49	48	AGC Glass 10p.	99	-7	11.73	3.9	7.8	8.7	8.7
152	21	A.V.F. Indus.	57	+1	2.79	4.7	4.7	4.7	4.7
54	54	American Int'l. Corp.	45	+1	1.50	2.4	4.8	12.4	12.4
41	16	Amoco Ind.	22	-2	2.0	2.0	1.1	1.1	1.1
136	64	Amoco Corp.	16	-7	14.1	2.2	13.4	13.3	13.3
84	27	Amoco Corp. 20p.	137	-7	12.79	4.5	5.1	5.8	5.8
42	16	Amoco Corp. 25p.	72	-7	12.79	4.5	5.0	5.8	5.8
52	33	Amoco Corp. 35p.	80	-2	8.85	2.6	3.6	4.1	4.1
29	7	Albion Polymer	22	-2	7.15	2.1	8.0	9.1	9.1
1	1	Alpine Indus.	11	-1	1.00	2.1	14.1	14.1	14.1
190	134	Almond Metal Co.	150	-2	12.06	4.2	9.5	12.7	12.7
47	29	Alpenwest Inc.	18	-1	1.71	0.7	8.7	12.7	12.7
11	11	Alpenwest Inc.	29	+1	12.33	1.2	12.7	12.7	12.7
33	12	Alpenwest Inc.	15	-2	22.57	1.2	12.7	12.7	12.7
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	13	-2	0.45	1.2	8.1	8.1	8.1
150	124	Alpenwest Inc.	18	-1	1.40	2.3	3.2	6.2	6.2
11	12	Alpenwest Inc.	22	-1	12.42	2.3	6.0	7.0	7.0
11	12	Alpenwest Inc.	25	-2	14.42	2.3	6.0	7.0	7.0
11	12	Alpenwest Inc.	28	-2	14.45	2.3	6.0	7.0	7.0
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	32	-2	7.95	1.7	13.0	13.0	13.0
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	34	-2	0.2	1.8	6.4	6.4	6.4
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	38	-2	0.84	1.8	6.4	6.4	6.4
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	42	-2	2.75	1.2	10.0	10.0	10.0
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	45	-2	12.88	2.3	9.9	6.6	6.6
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	48	-2	2.47	2.3	9.7	2.2	2.2
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	52	-2	10.51	5.7	9.5	2.2	2.2
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	56	-2	3.86	1.8	6.4	6.4	6.4
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	60	-2	0.84	1.8	6.4	6.4	6.4
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	64	-2	2.75	1.2	10.0	10.0	10.0
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	68	-2	12.88	2.3	9.9	6.6	6.6
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	72	-2	2.47	2.3	9.7	2.2	2.2
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	76	-2	10.51	5.7	9.5	2.2	2.2
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	80	-2	3.86	1.8	6.4	6.4	6.4
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	84	-2	0.84	1.8	6.4	6.4	6.4
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	88	-2	2.75	1.2	10.0	10.0	10.0
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	92	-2	12.88	2.3	9.9	6.6	6.6
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	96	-2	2.47	2.3	9.7	2.2	2.2
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	100	-2	10.51	5.7	9.5	2.2	2.2
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	104	-2	3.86	1.8	6.4	6.4	6.4
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	108	-2	0.84	1.8	6.4	6.4	6.4
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	112	-2	2.75	1.2	10.0	10.0	10.0
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	116	-2	12.88	2.3	9.9	6.6	6.6
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	120	-2	2.47	2.3	9.7	2.2	2.2
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	124	-2	10.51	5.7	9.5	2.2	2.2
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	128	-2	3.86	1.8	6.4	6.4	6.4
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	132	-2	0.84	1.8	6.4	6.4	6.4
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	136	-2	2.75	1.2	10.0	10.0	10.0
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	140	-2	12.88	2.3	9.9	6.6	6.6
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	144	-2	2.47	2.3	9.7	2.2	2.2
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	148	-2	10.51	5.7	9.5	2.2	2.2
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	152	-2	3.86	1.8	6.4	6.4	6.4
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	156	-2	0.84	1.8	6.4	6.4	6.4
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	160	-2	2.75	1.2	10.0	10.0	10.0
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	164	-2	12.88	2.3	9.9	6.6	6.6
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	168	-2	2.47	2.3	9.7	2.2	2.2
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	172	-2	10.51	5.7	9.5	2.2	2.2
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	176	-2	3.86	1.8	6.4	6.4	6.4
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	180	-2	0.84	1.8	6.4	6.4	6.4
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	184	-2	2.75	1.2	10.0	10.0	10.0
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	188	-2	12.88	2.3	9.9	6.6	6.6
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	192	-2	2.47	2.3	9.7	2.2	2.2
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	196	-2	10.51	5.7	9.5	2.2	2.2
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	200	-2	3.86	1.8	6.4	6.4	6.4
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	204	-2	0.84	1.8	6.4	6.4	6.4
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	208	-2	2.75	1.2	10.0	10.0	10.0
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	212	-2	12.88	2.3	9.9	6.6	6.6
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	216	-2	2.47	2.3	9.7	2.2	2.2
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	220	-2	10.51	5.7	9.5	2.2	2.2
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	224	-2	3.86	1.8	6.4	6.4	6.4
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	228	-2	0.84	1.8	6.4	6.4	6.4
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	232	-2	2.75	1.2	10.0	10.0	10.0
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	236	-2	12.88	2.3	9.9	6.6	6.6
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	240	-2	2.47	2.3	9.7	2.2	2.2
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	244	-2	10.51	5.7	9.5	2.2	2.2
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	248	-2	3.86	1.8	6.4	6.4	6.4
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	252	-2	0.84	1.8	6.4	6.4	6.4
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	256	-2	2.75	1.2	10.0	10.0	10.0
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	260	-2	12.88	2.3	9.9	6.6	6.6
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	264	-2	2.47	2.3	9.7	2.2	2.2
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	268	-2	10.51	5.7	9.5	2.2	2.2
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	272	-2	3.86	1.8	6.4	6.4	6.4
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	276	-2	0.84	1.8	6.4	6.4	6.4
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	280	-2	2.75	1.2	10.0	10.0	10.0
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	284	-2	12.88	2.3	9.9	6.6	6.6
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	288	-2	2.47	2.3	9.7	2.2	2.2
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	292	-2	10.51	5.7	9.5	2.2	2.2
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	296	-2	3.86	1.8	6.4	6.4	6.4
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	300	-2	0.84	1.8	6.4	6.4	6.4
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	304	-2	2.75	1.2	10.0	10.0	10.0
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	308	-2	12.88	2.3	9.9	6.6	6.6
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	312	-2	2.47	2.3	9.7	2.2	2.2
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	316	-2	10.51	5.7	9.5	2.2	2.2
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	320	-2	3.86	1.8	6.4	6.4	6.4
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	324	-2	0.84	1.8	6.4	6.4	6.4
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	328	-2	2.75	1.2	10.0	10.0	10.0
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	332	-2	12.88	2.3	9.9	6.6	6.6
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	336	-2	2.47	2.3	9.7	2.2	2.2
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	340	-2	10.51	5.7	9.5	2.2	2.2
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	344	-2	3.86	1.8	6.4	6.4	6.4
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	348	-2	0.84	1.8	6.4	6.4	6.4
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	352	-2	2.75	1.2	10.0	10.0	10.0
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	356	-2	12.88	2.3	9.9	6.6	6.6
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	360	-2	2.47	2.3	9.7	2.2	2.2
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	364	-2	10.51	5.7	9.5	2.2	2.2
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	368	-2	3.86	1.8	6.4	6.4	6.4
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	372	-2	0.84	1.8	6.4	6.4	6.4
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	376	-2	2.75	1.2	10.0	10.0	10.0
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	380	-2	12.88	2.3	9.9	6.6	6.6
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	384	-2	2.47	2.3	9.7	2.2	2.2
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	388	-2	10.51	5.7	9.5	2.2	2.2
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	392	-2	3.86	1.8	6.4	6.4	6.4
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	396	-2	0.84	1.8	6.4	6.4	6.4
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	400	-2	2.75	1.2	10.0	10.0	10.0
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	404	-2	12.88	2.3	9.9	6.6	6.6
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	408	-2	2.47	2.3	9.7	2.2	2.2
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	412	-2	10.51	5.7	9.5	2.2	2.2
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	416	-2	3.86	1.8	6.4	6.4	6.4
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	420	-2	0.84	1.8	6.4	6.4	6.4
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	424	-2	2.75	1.2	10.0	10.0	10.0
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	428	-2	12.88	2.3	9.9	6.6	6.6
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	432	-2	2.47	2.3	9.7	2.2	2.2
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	436	-2	10.51	5.7	9.5	2.2	2.2
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	440	-2	3.86	1.8	6.4	6.4	6.4
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	444	-2	0.84	1.8	6.4	6.4	6.4
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	448	-2	2.75	1.2	10.0	10.0	10.0
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	452	-2	12.88	2.3	9.9	6.6	6.6
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	456	-2	2.47	2.3	9.7	2.2	2.2
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	460	-2	10.51	5.7	9.5	2.2	2.2
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	464	-2	3.86	1.8	6.4	6.4	6.4
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	468	-2	0.84	1.8	6.4	6.4	6.4
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	472	-2	2.75	1.2	10.0	10.0	10.0
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	476	-2	12.88	2.3	9.9	6.6	6.6
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	480	-2	2.47	2.3	9.7	2.2	2.2
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	484	-2	10.51	5.7	9.5	2.2	2.2
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	488	-2	3.86	1.8	6.4	6.4	6.4
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	492	-2	0.84	1.8	6.4	6.4	6.4
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	496	-2	2.75	1.2	10.0	10.0	10.0
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	500	-2	12.88	2.3	9.9	6.6	6.6
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	504	-2	2.47	2.3	9.7	2.2	2.2
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	508	-2	10.51	5.7	9.5	2.2	2.2
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	512	-2	3.86	1.8	6.4	6.4	6.4
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	516	-2	0.84	1.8	6.4	6.4	6.4
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	520	-2	2.75	1.2	10.0	10.0	10.0
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	524	-2	12.88	2.3	9.9	6.6	6.6
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	528	-2	2.47	2.3	9.7	2.2	2.2
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	532	-2	10.51	5.7	9.5	2.2	2.2
1	1	Alpenwest Inc.	536	-2					

#### **OUR INTEGRATED BOARDS**

24	Angus IV "A"	74	....	13.9	16	8.6	11
22	Ass. Tele. "A"	72	....	20.35	—	27	—
9	Grampian "A" 10p.	20	-2	—	—	—	6
—	—	22	—	—	—	—	—

14	Amal. & Co. Suppl.	47	+1	3.05	27	10.0
15	Amal. Power	—				
82	Amisu. S'chylde fl	165	+3	16.5	19	7.9
21	Amico Point	27		+3.17	—	#

39	Wren & Nunn	12	+2	4.33	3.1
40	Woolsey Hughes	12	-	0.7	3.7
6	Wolverton Die Mfg.	11	-	0.97	4.1

## **SURANCE BASE RATES**

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# FINANCIAL TIMES

Wednesday December 31 1975

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## WILSON MESSAGE TO LABOUR PARTY

BY RICHARD EVANS, LOBBY CORRESPONDENT

There are some signs—tentative, not conclusive—that the bottom of Britain's economic recession has been reached. Mr. Harold Wilson tells Labour Party members in a New Year message to-day.

The Prime Minister, in slightly more optimistic terms than he used in his BBC radio interview at the weekend, adds that for the U.K. "1975 must be the year in which the suspicion of recovery becomes a fact."

It has to be the year in which the battle against inflation turns decisively in the U.K.'s favour.

In Mr. Wilson's view, the Government has the country's wholehearted and voluntary backing after bringing in the counter-inflation policies last summer. "We now have to build on that support," he declares.

The objective of reducing

the inflation rate to below 10 per cent, must be achieved by the end of next year" and after that we must ensure not only that it stays there, but it's comparable with levels achieved by our international partners.

Failure to do so, Mr. Wilson warns, would mean that all the Government's other objectives designed to bring about a fair and socially just society would be frustrated.

### Affected all

The Prime Minister goes on to say that the economy's recession has affected not just the U.K., but all the industrialised world. Western industrialised nations are going through a recession without parallel in modern times, and the past two years have shown that no country can be an island in economic terms.

No nation, however wealthy, can remain aloof and unaffected by the economic storms which engulf its neighbours. The British people recognised this truth when they voted overwhelmingly to play their full part in the European Community.

If 1976 is to be the year of advance, then Mr. Wilson is convinced that the British people will continue to reject the backward-looking philosophies with which the Conservative Government "launched this nation into recession in the winter of 1973-74."

Sir Geoffrey Howe, "shadow" Chancellor of the Exchequer, has agreed in his New Year statement that Mr. Wilson was right to warn of hardship in the year ahead, but in his opinion people will have to give much more than a year to Britain. "It will be a hard

slog—years, not months." He lists seven New Year resolutions for Mr. Wilson to make: stop calling on other nations to float Britain off the rocks; tell the people the truth about the economy; stop pretending that rising public spending can go on saving profits won through successful competition; call a final halt to nationalisation; and spell out clearly the choices that have to be made.

**Mixed economy**

This may seem a sombre message, Sir Geoffrey says, but it can be the beginning of hope. A Government prepared to turn away from politically-motivated upheaval and to recreate the essential dynamics of a mixed economy can effect a transformation in all our expectations.

## Fall in Stocks revised: but still a record

BY ANTHONY HARRIS

REVISED figures for stock changes and capital investment in the third quarter of this year show that the provisional figures, published earlier, very slightly overstated the fall in stocks and investment in the quarter.

The picture remains one of sharp recession, though with some signs that September was

A dozen companies are holding annual or extra-ordinary meetings to-day even in the absence of Oldham Estate's traditional end-of-the-year frolic which took place nearly three weeks ago featuring a masked Harry Hyman. This unusually large New Year's Eve total is less because of an unseasonal perversity than necessity. In a number of cases meetings have to be held to-day otherwise balance-sheet or legal restrictions will be infringed.

At Slater Walker, the proposal to repay £3.46m. of unsecured loan stock at par, presumably to be passed with eager acclamation by holders, is just in time for the balance sheet date. The repayment will safely remove the most restrictive remaining borrowing limit with the report in about a month and the meeting in mid-February. But the more immediate question has been about the payment of half-yearly dividends with a one-point rise in ML.

Rises of around a point in January increased £3.1 to £3.2, which suggests that there will be no redundancies. However, brokerage income is currently running some 20 per cent. up on combined 1975 p/e of under 13 is solidly based.

Mergers in insurance broking have had their problems in the past, as a service industry heavily reliant on people it is important that toes are not trodden upon. But Halford will provide very little in the way of business overlap which means no redundancies. However, brokered income is currently running some 20 per cent. up on combined 1975 p/e of under 13 is solidly based.

**Akroyd & Smithers**

Akroyd and Smithers' balance sheet provides an intriguing insight into a jobber's books on a memorable day for the securities markets—October 3, the day when the Bank of England set an unusually large New Year's Eve total is less because of an unseasonal perversity than necessity. In a number of cases meetings have to be held to-day otherwise balance-sheet or legal restrictions will be infringed.

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**Alexander Howden**

If it goes through, the agreed bid for Halford Head is going to add usefully to Alexander Howden's profits from insurance broking. The enlarged group could be getting over 80 per cent. of pre-tax returns from this source, and more than two-thirds of its brokerage will be

uncomfortable following any write-offs, though the implication is that provisions will not

be so large as to test the thinnest £20.7m. convertible loan stock

capital and reserves limits of the other Slater stocks.

The need for a meeting at the end of the year is even more pressing in the case of First National Finance Corporation if the reorganisation is not approved, the company could be in technical default on payment of loan stock interest due to-day. The proposals involve deferment of interest, the alteration of other rights on two subsidiary loan stocks and a general revision of borrowing papers. As usual, stockholders have been told that the "only realistic alternative" would be immediate liquidation.

New Year's Eve also provides a final opportunity for less forthcoming companies to hold the shareholders' meeting required once a year. But at Equity Enterprises, whose last figures are two years' out of date, shareholders are likely to learn little at today's meeting since directors have already said they will propose an adjournment until after the accounts for 1974 appear

some time in the New Year.

**Town and Commercial Properties**

It includes U.K. underwriting income (worth £400,000 in 1974) and outside estimates put the year's output closer to £10.75m. But similarly Halford's own profit forecast is open to extensive reinterpretation. The bid generally. The argument

is that the bid could well be

accrued favourably with what was a relatively dull period last year.

**SE Inquiry**

The Stock Exchange has been unable to find no evidence of breach of security or of insolvency trading in Slater Walker shares. The shares collapsed immediately before the founder's resignation. This is far enough. The shares had been weak for months, and it may not have required much sell pressure to start the run. But the

overstating Committee might have been wiser to leave it as it was. The shares collapsed

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